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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXIX, No. 21

Section 1

April 25, 1928.

DEPARTMENT

POULTRY INQUIRY The New York Times to-day says: "As a result of conditions found in the chicken packing and canning plant of A. Silz, Inc., New York, which was ordered closed last Saturday by Health Commissioner Harris, Secretary of Agriculture William M. Jardine, was asked yesterday by Doctor Harris in a letter to make an investigation into sanitary conditions in Chicago wholesale poultry houses. After a hearing of representatives of the Silz firm in his office, Doctor Harris announced that he wanted the Federal investigation, feeling that because of 'the unusual service' rendered by the Department of Agriculture in its inspection of cattle and sheep the same inspection should be made of fowls. Officials of the Silz firm, at the hearing, ascribed the condition found in their plant to the lack of Federal inspection at the source of the poultry supply in Chicago, Doctor Harris said...."

CORN BORER BILL

The Senate yesterday passed the House bill for an appropriation of \$7,000,000 to fight the corn borer, according to the press to-day.

TAX REDUCTION BILL

The Republican majority of the Senate finance committee decided yesterday to cut the House \$290,000,000 tax reduction bill to \$210,000,000.

FLOOD CONTROL BILL

The Jones-Reed flood control bill, carrying provisions which critics of the measure assert involve a total expenditure far beyond \$1,000,000,000, was passed by the House yesterday by vote of 254 to 91, according to the press to-day. The report says: "Included in the bill are several features that are objectionable to President Coolidge, but hope was expressed last night by administration spokesmen that these would be ironed out in conference or modified in such a manner as to make the proposed flood control plan acceptable to the White House..." The bill authorizes appropriation of \$325,000,000 for flood control works on the Mississippi; provides \$17,500,000 in addition for flood control on the Sacramento River in California; also makes available the unexpended balance of \$10,000,000 previously authorized for survey of reservoirs on tributaries of the Mississippi.

MINNEAPOLIS RE-

DISCOUNT RATE The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis yesterday increased the rediscount rate from 4 to $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, effective April 25. It is the fifth Federal Reserve Bank to take such action within a week. Chicago, Boston, St. Louis and Richmond have already made the increase to $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Section 2

American
Exports

For the third consecutive year, American exports in 1927 neared the five billion dollar mark, as shown in a bulletin on "Our World Trade in 1927," made public by the foreign commerce department of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. "Despite generally lower world prices," the Chamber says, "our total exports for the year 1927 amounted to \$4,864,806,000, which was 1% greater than that of the preceding year, but about 1% smaller than the high value of 1925. In 1927 our exports of manufactured articles passed the three-billion mark for the second consecutive year. Exports of raw materials, on the other hand, declined in value, owing to the sharp drop in our coal exports after the cessation of the British coal strike in 1926. Exports of grains, fruits, cotton, lumber, copper and other non-ferrous metals, many lines of machinery, automobiles, leather, furs, tobacco, coal-tar products, medicinals, and industrial chemicals fared very well. Fifteen of the first twenty leading commodities exported from the United States in 1927, comprising more than three-fifths of our total exports in value, gained in both value and volume over 1926. As usual, King Cotton dominated our exports--value \$826,000,000--more than double the value of our shipments abroad of the second leading export, automobiles, parts and accessories. The huge quantity--4,897,000,000 pounds--is the largest amount exported from any country, with the single exception of the five and a half billion pounds we shipped abroad in 1912. The principal market in 1927 for our cotton was Germany, followed by England, Japan, France, and Russia. Automobile exports continued their upward climb to a new record, our shipments abroad in 1927 totaling \$388,000,000 or 21% above the previous high mark set in 1926. No.3 among our exports was wheat, of which we shipped 168,000,000 bushels, at \$1.42 a bushel, or \$239,504,000--an increase in volume of 22% and in value 19% above 1926 figures. Notwithstanding the lower price level, some of our exports more than doubled--even tripled--their 1926 values. Among the more important were rye, gain 223%; barley, gain 242%; rice, gain 176%; and petroleum asphalt, gain 162%."

Barron on
Florida

C. W. Barron, writing on "Florida of the Tropics" in The Wall Street Journal for April 23, says: "Florida has had her intoxication of sunshine and land booms. She must now understand that wealth is from the sun, by the soil, through labor--labor of brain as well as labor of hand....The way for Florida, and particularly south Florida, to wealth, is to coin her sunshine and her soil into food, fruits and flowers for the great markets of the North. The people of south Florida must now learn to know the ground under them. This little tropical belt may hold the future of the world for the development of new species in fruits, flowers and useful trees. The food basket of the world is already full. The demand--the increasing demand--is for luxury, luxury in food, luxury in fruits, luxury in flowers, trees and vegetables of all kinds. These can be developed only in proximity to markets... Henry Ford can find in Florida the solution for his agricultural problem. He believes it an economic waste for men to work 27 days out of 365 to make a crop, and spend the balance of their time in chicken-raising, horse-feeding, cow-milking and farm chores. One can farm here the year round, and the Government has given Florida four useful grasses, the Napier, the Para, the Guatemala, and the Centipede....If you want to know the possibilities in Florida, let Dr. David Fairchild, who represents the United States Government in its introduction of foreign

plants into south Florida, take you next season to Chapman Field, which sends out 15,000 to 20,000 new and rare plants every year to experimenters in the South. This field still belongs to the War Department, which found it unsuitable for aviation purposes. It should be transferred to the Agricultural Department, and wholly given over to the development of the South, horticulturally and agriculturally. Don't forget to ask Doctor Fairchild about the bael fruit of Ceylon, of which he is very fond, and to which, it is said, the kings of the East attribute their longevity...."

Canadian Farm Research On the ten-acre plot of the Dominion Experimental Farm in Ottawa the Government will erect the first unit of a national laboratory to be devoted to scientific and industrial research work and a central power plant. An appropriation of \$750,000 has been made for the first year's work. (Press, Apr. 22.)

Fisher Price Index A New Haven dispatch April 23 states that the weekly index number of Stock Exchange prices, compiled by Professor Irving Fisher and based on the week's fifty most active industrial stocks, reckoned on their average of 1926 as 100, is 343.0. This compares with 339.1 the week before, 332.0 two weeks before, 295.4 three weeks before, and 303.4 four weeks before. This week's average is the highest for 1928 to date; the lowest was 253.9 for the week ended Feb. 24.

Flood Legislation An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for April 23 says: "Anyone who wonders why President Coolidge is so sure the Senate passed the Jones flood control bill without understanding it need only read the bill to reach the same conclusion. A great deal of what the bill does is not to be found in the measure itself but in reports and statutes to which it refers. All its language is vague and widely inclusive, pregnant of all manner of interpretations. It puts in motion a vast engineering undertaking and authorizes its expansion to proportions still more vast, without limiting the cost to complete what it sanctions to the \$325,000,000 which it appropriates....President Coolidge has indicated his willingness to sign the bill if it is amended so as to set up effective governmental control of the expenditure of Treasury funds, to put a definite limitation upon the total expenditure, and to require local communities to provide the land needed for control works. There can be no legitimate objection to these conditions, even from those most anxious to extend quick relief to the afflicted valley."

French Prices The index figure of wholesale prices for France, which from November 1927 to February 1928 had risen by 22 points, showed a new increase of 14 points in March, or 636 as against 622 in the preceding month, 655 in March 1927 and 854 in July 1926 when it reached its maximum figure. This advance is due chiefly to an increase of 28 points in the index for food stuffs while that for raw materials increased by 4 points only. When compared with the maximum figures reached in July 1926, imported products showed a decline of 387 points and domestic products 132 points. (Bankers Trust Co., N.Y., Apr. 20.)

Radio Station Reduction Gradual reduction in the number of broadcasting stations throughout the country, instead of a big reduction immediately, was recommended by broadcasters, radio manufacturers and dealers at their reallocation conference with the Radio Commission April 23. The plan was presented in a joint report of the National Association of Broadcasters, the Radio Manufacturers' Association and the Federated Radio Trades Association, through Frank D. Scott, attorney and former Member of Congress from Michigan, and it was explained in detail by Mr. Scott, William Hedges of Chicago, R.H. Langley of Cincinnati and L.E. Noble of Buffalo. Members of the commission were disappointed that the associations made no recommendation as to the maximum number of stations, power or wave lengths. (Press, Apr. 24.)

Rio Grande Survey A San Antonio dispatch April 22 says: "American and Mexican Government engineers have been making a survey of the Rio Grande to determine the natural flow of the river and to arrive at some joint agreement as to the volume of water which may be taken for irrigation purposes by the people of the two countries. It is a matter of importance to land owners on the American side, and is rapidly becoming more so. To the owners of the extensive tracts given over to the growing of grapefruit, oranges and lemons in the Brownsville district the topic is vital...."

Stock Speculation An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for April 24 says: "...There is no danger to the country in an active speculative market in stocks, even one so spectacular as that at present existing. It can be liquidated more quickly than any menacing condition in the country. It is invariably liquidated before the rest of the country has arrived at a safety level. Wall Street was deflated safely late in 1919, many months before the tremendous gamble in farm lands had even been taken in hand. Wall Street, moreover, is not carrying on the present speculation with money diverted from other needs of the country. Such money comes to Wall Street to be lent on call because it is not wanted elsewhere. Call rates are not attractive to country bankers, except when the interest is better than nothing at all. Such money can be recalled at a day's notice. On the development of any real country demand, it is instantly available by telegraphic transfer. For its own sake, Wall Street never holds back capital which can be profitably used....This is no defense of inordinate speculation. That tends to right itself in stocks or farm lands or Florida real estate. What is necessary is to correct the public sense of proportion."

Wool Market The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for April 21 says: "The wool market is marking time for the moment, as is also the case with the market for goods. Occasional small piecing-out sales are reported and some buying forward by manufacturers, when prices suit them, but the market as a whole is no more than steady, although most dealers are optimistic concerning the future. In the West there is little that is new, scattering purchases being at unchanged prices. Foreign markets are generally quiet with prices barely steady in Bradford."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products April 24. Livestock prices quoted: Steers, good and choice, \$13 to \$14.60; cows, good and choice, \$8.50 to \$11.50; heifers, good and choice, \$12.25 to \$13.75; vealers, good and choice, \$10 to \$14.25; feeder and stocker cattle steers, good and choice, \$11.50 to \$12.75; hogs, heavy weight, medium, good and choice, \$9.50 to \$10.20; light lights, medium to choice, \$8.75 to \$10.40; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice, (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations) \$8.25 to \$9.50; lambs, good and choice, \$15.65 to \$16.65; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice, \$13.25 to \$15.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring (13% protein) Minneapolis, \$1.30 $\frac{3}{8}$ to \$1.90 $\frac{3}{8}$. No.2 red winter Kansas City \$1.90 to \$1.95. No.2 red winter (12 $\frac{1}{2}$ % protein) Kansas City \$1.62 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$1.69 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis) Kansas City, \$1.52 to \$1.54. No.3 mixed corn, Chicago \$1.06 $\frac{1}{2}$, Minneapolis, \$1.00 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$1.01 $\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City 98¢ to 99¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.07 to \$1.09 $\frac{1}{2}$, Minneapolis \$1.04 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$1.06 $\frac{1}{2}$, Kansas City \$1.02 $\frac{1}{4}$ to \$1.04; white oats Chicago 63¢ to 68¢; Minneapolis 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 62¢; Kansas City 64¢ to 65¢.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes sold at \$8-\$11 per barrel in eastern cities; \$7.50-\$8 f.o.b. Hastings. Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs \$4.50-\$5 and Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.85-\$2 per 100 pounds on the Chicago carlot market. Maine sacked Green Mountains ranged \$2.25-\$2.65 in eastern cities; mostly \$1.45-\$1.50 f.o.b. Presque Isle. South Carolina pointed type cabbage closed at \$2.75-\$3.75 per 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel hamper in the East. Louisiana pointed type \$6.25-\$7 per barrel crate in terminal markets. Texas round type sold at \$110-\$130 bulk per ton in midwestern cities; best stock \$75 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions brought \$1.75-\$2.75 per standard crate in consuming centers; \$1.45-\$1.50 f.o.b. Laredo. Louisiana Klondike strawberries \$3.75-\$4.50 per 24-pint crate in distributing center; auction sales \$3-\$3.45 at Hammond.

May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 21 points to 20.37¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they were up 27 points to 20.03¢. May futures on the Chicago Board of Trade advanced 24 points to 20.14¢. The average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 25 points to 19.97¢ per lb. On the same day last season the price stood at 14.45¢. Sales of spot cotton in 10 designated markets amounted to 8,944 bales, against 10,326 bales on the corresponding day last season. Exports were 5,340 bales, compared with 23,057 on the same day in 1927. Exports from August 1 to April 24, this season 6,350,330 bales, compared with 9,489,906 bales last season.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 46 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; 91 score, 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 46 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 22 to 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 23 to 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas, 26¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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Vol. XXIX, No. 22

Section 1

April 26, 1928.

SALARY INCREASE BILL An emergency bill to raise the pay of Government workers was agreed upon yesterday by the House civil service committee, which will report it favorably in the near future. The prospects are that it will be passed in the closing days of the session. While the bill bears the name of Representative Welch of California, author of the first pay-raise bill introduced at this session, it actually is the substitute bill drafted by the Bureau of the Budget. The bill will add about \$16,000,000 to the Government pay roll, and will give an average increase of \$118 each to 135,000 employees, 45,000 in the National Capital and 90,000 in the States. (Press, Apr. 26.)

TAX REDUCTION BILL The Democratic members of the Senate finance committee will present to the Republican members to-day the minority plan for tax reduction, involving, it was said last night, between \$300,000,000 and \$325,000,000. The Republicans April 24 laid down a plan for a reduction of \$210,000,000. (Press, Apr. 26.)

SOUTHERN COTTON DELIVERIES Inclusion of Dallas as a delivery point in the event of legislation amending the Smith-Lever Act, controlling cotton futures markets, by providing for southern deliveries on New York contracts, was sought of Senator Ellison D. Smith of South Carolina April 23 by representatives of the Dallas Cotton Exchange, according to the press.

NEAR-BLACK FLOWERS A Ghent dispatch to-day states that roses, carnations and tulips nearly as black as coal are among the newest features of the international flower show, which opened at Ghent on April 24. The report says: "Belgium, Holland, England, Germany and France are the principal exhibitors, and to the Dutch must go the credit for the newest developments of flower culture. After several centuries of searching they have obtained tulips which are so nearly black that the difference is scarcely discernible and have managed to produce a rose which is darker than purple. The British horticulturists show two black carnations and several new roses. A British orchid called 'Idontioda' took first prize in what is considered here the most remarkable collection of orchids ever assembled."

POULTRY PLANT TO REOPEN The New York Times to-day reports that Health Commissioner Harris, New York, announced yesterday that the canning plant of the Silz Packing Company, Inc., which was closed last Saturday, would be allowed to reopen to-day. Fourteen violations of health regulations had been remedied, Doctor Harris said.

LOCUSTS IN EGYPT A Cairo dispatch April 25 reports that swarms of locusts were reported April 24 to have arrived in Upper and Lower Egypt. They are attacking the cotton plants and the authorities are acting energetically to wipe out the plague.

Section 2

Agricultural. . . Professor Wibberley, F.L.S., is the author of an article on Research in "Scientific Seed Production" in Country Life (London) for April 14 Britain. He says in part: "During the present period of agricultural depression many remedial measures--most of them in the nature of panaceas--are being advocated for the resuscitation of British agriculture. Farmers are recommended to avail more of cooperative methods in buying and selling, Denmark being held up to them as a classic example of agricultural cooperative progress. The fact, though, is often overlooked that agricultural conditions in Denmark are so totally different from our own. Denmark is a country of very small farmers, who export their agricultural produce, chiefly in the form of butter and bacon, while the British farmer has to cater for a home market very, very varied indeed in its demands. Power farming has also its advocates, despite the facts that the capital outlay on farm machinery is greater in Great Britain than in any other country and that the depressed state of agriculture in the great wheat-producing areas of Canada and America--where power farming has been developed to its utmost limit--is greater than at home. The plain fact of the matter is that, due to various causes, farming throughout the world is in a bad way, and those of us intimately connected with the agricultural industry are content to wait with all the patience we can muster until the production of food has settled down to its economic basis. There are not wanting signs that we have already passed the worst point.... Fortunately for the farming community, the admirable research work of numerous scientific investigators carried out during the last decade has clearly pointed out that development on the lines indicated is both possible and profitable.... The writer had recently the privilege of studying at first hand the work being carried out by one of our leading seed houses with the object of placing at the farmers' disposal improved types of seeds.... The infringement of the patent rights of a trouser button is followed by direct penalties; but, under our existing laws, anyone can raise seed from an improved plant, sell it as their own improved type, and even go to the extreme of using the original improver's name in such a fashion as to lead the public to believe they are selling on behalf of the original introducer. There is not a firm of standing in these countries or an individual plant breeder who would not welcome legislation on the lines indicated, as much to protect the interest of the general public as their own."

American Institute of Cooperation A pamphlet entitled "A Cooperative Pilgrimage to California," issued by the American Institute of Cooperation, says: "The American Institute of Cooperation will hold its fourth summer session on the campus of the University of California at Berkeley in July of 1928. The program involves three distinct phases: (1) a field trip occupying one week beginning July 9, during which various cooperative organizations will be visited; (2) a two weeks' cooperative trade conference at the University of California at Berkeley beginning July 16 and ending July 28; and (3) a number of courses dealing with the principles of cooperation and cooperative business practices, which will be offered at the University of California for a period of four weeks, beginning July 9 and ending August 4. About 60 per cent of the 1928 program will be devoted to problems of Pacific Coast cooperatives and 40 per cent to problems of cooperatives in other parts of the United States. But in organizing the program, the program committee has arranged for all of

the morning sessions of the Institute to be devoted to the larger questions and issues in which the cooperatives of the United States have a common interest....Afternoon programs will continue the discussions of some of these larger questions in group conferences and the groups will also take up specific problems affecting particular commodities. Distinguished authorities will present their views on these and other important questions now confronting the cooperative movement."

Distribution An editorial in *The World's Work* for May says: "One subject on which all agree is that distribution in the United States has been wasteful and excessively costly. At length, however, the unanimity of opinion has been broken. A Wall Street banker, who has specialized in the technique of retailing--Paul M. Mazur, partner of the banking house of Lehman Brothers--comes along with a new thesis, which consists of saying a kindly word for present distributive methods, which he hints constitute the backbone of American prosperity. Mr. Mazur explains the looming era of supersalesmanship as the result of an effort to find buyers for the increasing output of American factories, which have been progressively expanding their operations in accordance with the principles of mass production....According to this new financial prophet, wasteful distribution tends to justify itself by stimulating cheaper production. In economic terms, even mass production is subject to the law of diminishing utility. After a while, the State may be reached where the economies of increased production will be offset by the added cost of distribution. As business looks for increasing sales volume, the cost of selling rises. Big volume depends not only on automatic demand, but demand that has been stimulated and whipped by high pressure appeals. If consumers learned to want more voluntarily, the vendors would meet less commercial friction, and the costs of distribution would diminish. Society pays a price for the necessity of getting business men to implant the seed of desire in the hearts of consumers, but this cost is largely absorbed by the economies of mass production."

Export Pools An editorial in *The Farmer* (St. Paul) for April 14 says: "It is rather interesting to note that Congressman Newton is fathering a bill, now pending in Congress, which proposes to give American importers the right to engage in pool buying. This right would enable importers to compete against foreign monopolies, principally in rubber, sisal, and potash. The Newton bill appears to be a sensible proposal. The interesting thing about Mr. Newton's proposal is that he sees the advantage of the pooling privilege for importers, but he has failed to recognize the advantage of the pooling privilege when extended to farmers who sell their surplus products on the world market....If pooling is good for importers of rubber, why is it not good for exporters of wheat?...This is a day of mass action in production, distribution, and marketing. Collective bargaining is a power in the hands of labor and industry....In view of the present agricultural situation and its importance to the Nation, is there any good reason why this experiment should not be tried out?"

Farm Relief In an editorial on farm relief measures, *The Wall St. Journal* for April 25 says: "...Overemphasis is placed on marketing. In the estimation of these amateur distributors of farm products if the stream of products on the way to market can be controlled or dammed, all will be well. This is almost as intelligent as a plan to control

the Mississippi River by building a dam across the stream at Cairo. A more scientific plan might be to lessen the flood at the headwaters and then provide a proper outlet for the stream. Assuming that the plan would temporarily boost prices, how long will the pain be deadened and the patient sleep? If higher prices are obtained in the domestic market somebody must pay them. Then, what effect will higher living costs have upon the prices of manufactured articles that the farmers must buy? Do farmers remember the war and the post-war boom? Corn at Chicago sold at \$2.36 and oats at \$1.29 a bushel and hogs at 23.6 cents a pound. But with prices from two to three times their normal level, how many farmers were millionaires when the bubble burst? If those prices could be established again, and even made permanent, farm prosperity would not result. For one reason, higher prices would quickly become capitalized in land prices. For the few cute enough to sell and get out it would be profitable, but that is not farm relief. For agriculture as a whole, the net result would be larger capital expenditures, higher taxes, more interest, more tenant farmers and relatively the same net income. The patient then would awake and find himself in still greater pain."

French Foreign Imports into France from her colonies during 1927 amounted to Trade 6,045,000,000 francs, while exports to the same countries reached 8,165,000,000 francs. These figures have just been published in the annual report of the French Customs Administration and transmitted to the Bankers Trust Company of New York. This favorable trade balance of 2,120,000,000 francs accounts for about 90 per cent of the total amount of France's favorable balance for the year. Trade with the colonies amounted to 13.1 per cent of the total foreign trade of France. Of the phosphate imported into France 99.3 per cent came from the colonies, 81.5 per cent of the rice, 76.5 per cent of the exotic woods, and 55 per cent of the graphite imports. The proportion of lead, vegetables, eggs, textiles, hides and skins purchased abroad was considerably smaller ranging from 25 to 40 per cent. Efforts are being made to develop the production of rubber, of which the colonies last year supplied only 17.6 per cent of the total imports. The new customs tariff voted by parliament before its dissolution is expected to secure better protection of the country's colonial trade.

Section 3Department of
Agriculture

An editorial in Hoard's Dairyman for April 25 says: "The importance of the livestock industry of this country warrants more attention to be paid toward securing a larger number of competent veterinarians. One way to stimulate more young men to enter this profession is for the Federal Government to secure larger compensation for those serving in the Bureau of Animal Industry. It is rather surprising, considering the low average salary paid to veterinarians, that the Bureau of Animal Industry has been able to get as many capable men as it has in its employ at the present time. There is a marked decline in the attendance in veterinary schools which indicates clearly that the compensation for veterinarians has not kept pace with advances for similar services. Our livestock industry is not only growing rapidly in numbers but the quality is improving, which makes it essential that we have more professional men capable of treating livestock than

we have had in the past. An effort is being made by the Bureau of Animal Industry to secure a small appropriation that the compensation of veterinarians in Government service may be increased. Every owner of livestock should be ready to support this appropriation as it is very small and if passed by Congress will not even then adequately compensate veterinarians in Government service."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products April 25. Livestock prices quoted: Steers, good and choice, \$13.25 to \$14.75; cows, good and choice, \$8.75 to \$11.75; heifers, good and choice, \$12.50 to \$14; vealers, good and choice, \$10 to \$14.25; feeder and stocker cattle steers, good and choice, \$11.50 to \$12.75; hogs, heavy weight, medium, good and choice, \$9.65 to \$10.35; light lights, medium to choice, \$8.75 to \$10.40; slaughter pigs, medium good and choice, \$8.25 to \$9.50; (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations) \$8.25 to \$9.50; lambs, good and choice, \$15.50 to \$16.50.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring (13% protein) Minneapolis \$1.84 to \$1.94. No.2 red winter Chicago \$2.02; Kansas City \$1.94 to \$2. No.2 hard winter (12½% protein) Kansas City \$1.67 to \$1.74. No.2 hard winter (not on protein) Chicago \$1.65¼; Kansas City \$1.57 to \$1.59. No.3 mixed corn Chicago \$1.08; Minneapolis \$1.02 to \$1.03; Kansas City 99¢ to \$1. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.08 to \$1.11½; Minneapolis \$1.06 to \$1.08; Kansas City \$1.02½ to \$1.04½. No.3 white oats Chicago 64½¢ to 71¢; Minneapolis 62 to 62½¢; Kansas City 65 to 66½¢.

May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 43 points to 20.80¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they advanced 41 points to 20.44¢. May futures on the Chicago Board of Trade advanced 38 points to 20.52¢. The average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 36 points to 20.33¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 14.57¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 46½¢; 91 score, 46¼¢; 90 score, 46¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 22 to 22½¢; Single Daisies, 23 to 23½¢; Young Americas, 26¢.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes sold at \$7.50-\$10.50 per barrel in eastern city markets; \$7.25-\$8 f.o.b. Hastings. Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs \$4.50-\$5.25 per 100 pounds in the Middle West; \$3.75-\$4 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.75-\$1.90 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.65 f.o.b. Waupaca. Texas yellow Bermuda onions ranged \$1.65-\$3 per standard crate in consuming centers; \$1.50-\$1.65 f.o.b. Laredo. South Carolina pointed type cabbage brought \$2.75-\$3.75 per 1½-bushel hamper in eastern markets. Texas round type ranged \$110-\$135 bulk per ton in some terminal markets; \$75 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Louisiana Klondike straw-berries sold generally around \$3.75-\$4.50 per 24-pint crate in distributing centers; auction sales \$3.22½-\$3.62½ at Hammond. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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Vol. XXIX, No. 23

Section 1

April 27, 1928

THE FARM RELIEF BILL The press to-day reports: "The McNary-Haugen plan of farm relief, revised in minor particulars, changed definitely here and there, but containing the price-fixing features to which exception is taken by President Coolidge, was taken up in the House yesterday for the fourth time in as many years...."

THE SALARY BILL The press to-day says: "To avoid the danger of the measure being caught in a legislative jam at the end of the session, the House civil service committee has determined to seek early action on the new Welch bill raising the pay of Federal workers. It is possible that the House will consider the bill Monday, but it is more probable that it will take it up the following Monday...."

THE TAX BILL The House \$290,000,000 tax reduction bill was remodeled completely yesterday by the Senate finance committee in voting a \$203,000,000 reduction schedule into the measure to meet the limitation set by the administration. The Republican majority of the committee pared down the total cut within range of the Treasury dead line of \$200,000,000 over the votes of the Democrats, who had advanced a \$325,000,000 plan. (Press, Apr. 27.)

THE FLOOD BILL Senator Jones of Washington, author of the Senate flood control bill, had a long conference yesterday with President Coolidge and General Jadwin on the flood control controversy. He said later that the President would submit a memorandum in which he will make suggested changes in the Senate bill as amended by the House. (Press, Apr. 27.)

CAPPER ROAD BILL Senator Capper introduced a resolution in the Senate yesterday providing for a National Old Trails road to stretch from Washington to Los Angeles, according to the press to-day.

COPELAND AND FOOD LAWS An Atlantic City dispatch to-day states that members of the Glass Container Association of America, in convention at Atlantic City, were warned by Senator Royal Copeland of New York against the amendment to the pure food laws pending in Congress, giving the Department of Agriculture authority to decide what foods should be packed in glass containers. "If the amendment is enacted, glass container manufacturers will be placed at the mercy of the department," he declared.

RADIO REALLOCATION The press to-day reports: "The Radio Commission has figured that it will take about sixty days to work out a reallocation program for broadcasting stations, and experts of the commission are of the opinion it will require about the same length of time to work out the new shortwave allocations...."

Section 2

Coffee Substitute An editorial in Farm and Ranch for April 21 says: "Uncle George S. Reeves, whose genial countenance is always seen at the State Fair of Texas with a splendid exhibit of Wood County products, and whose slogan is, 'Wood County, the Land of Opportunity,' has learned that a certain bean which grows in east Texas makes good coffee. Yet, it is not coffee, for Mr. Reeves says that this bean has no relation to the coffee bean and contains but a very small percentage of caffeine, but when ground and percolated looks like coffee and tastes like coffee, with probably a slightly richer food taste. Mr. Reeves discovered this bean growing on a vine in east Texas. Others, of course, had seen the same kind of beans thousands of times, but never thought anything about it. It occurred to Mr. Reeves that it is said that nothing was created in vain, so he tried it out on chickens, hogs, and other livestock. None of them would touch it. Then he had it analyzed and learned that it contained 24.81 per cent protein and 49.5 per cent nitrogen--free extract. 'Well, it isn't poisonous,' thought Mr. Reeves, and so samples were sent into other States where it was learned that certain medical extracts could be obtained from it. Finally, he accidentally discovered that the pulverized bean smelled like coffee. Thereupon he proceeded to roast some of them, ground them, and made himself a drink. It was just like coffee. He tried it out on a number of Mineola friends, and then one day brought a quantity to the State Fair of Texas and served it as coffee to 500 guests at the all-Texas dinner, and not a single one who drank it knew but what it was a fine grade of coffee from Brazil, Mexico, or some other coffee-producing country. This is the substance of the story published in the east Texas Chamber of Commerce Magazine. The story continues with a statement that a company is being organized to put the bean on the market, not as a substitute for coffee, but as a drink under its own name."

Cotton Prices and Textile Market Strongly denying that the cotton manufacturers profited from the drop in cotton prices last fall, Walker D. Hines, president of the Cotton Textile Institute, Inc., New York, April 25 told the Smith cotton probe committee in Congress that the fall in prices resulted in buyers of cotton goods withdrawing from the market stocks of manufactured goods piled up and the mills were unable to sell them even at cost. The manufacturers, however, did not undertake to investigate the reason for the sudden drop in prices, nor has the Textile Institute ever undertaken to deal with the question of raw cotton prices, Hines said.

Dairy Industry In his annual address before the recent meeting of the Land O' Lakes Creameries, Inc., John Brandt, president of that organization, made the following statements: "If the dairy business is overdone, it will be the farmer's own fault because he has overproduced and not recognized his responsibility to the industry and done as any other manufacturer would do. That is to stimulate greater consumption and create new outlets through new uses for dairy products by properly advertising and merchandising his goods. This is the farmer's own problem and he can not sit idly by and expect someone else to do it for him. There are tremendous possibilities and a bright future for the dairy business as we have not as yet scratched the surface in the way of finding new uses and outlets for our product. We are the fifth

nation in the world in the per capita consumption of butter and about the eleventh nation in the per capita consumption of cheese. While the same ratio would not apply to the consumption of milk and cream, yet we are not at the top of the list. We are a nation of over 100,000,000 population. If we could increase the per capita consumption of butter one pound per person, it would take care of any possible increase for years to come...." (Dairy Record, Apr. 18.)

Herd Tests

An editorial in Western Breeders Journal for April 15 says: "Recent indications point to growing favor of the herd test among Jersey and Guernsey breeders. The fact that the Ayrshire people have tried it and are convinced, and the further fact that the Holstein people have watched it being tried and are convinced enough to try it for themselves, will not be without effect. There is a feeling that the herd test has arrived most opportunely to rescue official testing from a more or less permanent decline....Official testing, as it has been conducted, has had the effect, largely, of emphasizing the development of the tops in the herd--and not very many of the herds, comparatively. The herd test concerns itself with the herd as a whole, obviously, and makes for profitable operation all the way around by throwing the spotlight on those unprofitable producers who frequently manage to deceive their owners...The herd test means simply the application to dairying of an important business principle long in use in other manufacturing enterprises. The average manufacturer would never think of attempting to operate without a system that could show him which of the units of his productive machinery was making money for him and which was losing his money. It is about time that the dairy cattle breeding industry made an effort to catch up with other lines of business in the use of good business methods."

Hog Market

An editorial in Stockman and Farmer for April 21 says: "Let us call the attention of those who have been hollering for stabilization of markets to the fact that hog producers have had but not enjoyed a stable market during the past winter. Their market has fluctuated very little and yet they haven't been supremely happy about it. In fact they are happier over a recent fluctuation and the promise of more fluctuations in the right direction. Producers of anything are interested in a stable market only when it is a profitable one. They don't want any market stabilized on a low basis, nor do consumers want it stabilized on a high basis. But perhaps there isn't much use in discussing stabilization, which is an economic impossibility except as it occurs naturally. What we really want our markets to do is to reflect actual conditions, and as long as they are free and open that is what they will do."

Horse Population

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for April 20 says: "I have received a statement from McFarland, of the Percheron Society of America, to the effect that for every thousand horses on the farms in the United States there were foaled 91 colts in 1919 and only 42 colts in 1927. It takes at least 70 colts each year for each one thousand horses and mules to prevent the horse population from declining. The United States is now losing about a million horses every two years, and if this trend continues we will be completely horseless in half a century. In five years the farm power problem will be a critical

matter which will require the best efforts of both the tractor people and the horse people to meet. There are large sections in the Corn Belt where the modern improved tractor can replace horses to good advantage. But there are other sections where horses are likely to be more economical for at least half a century to come. I would like to see the tractor and horse people hold a joint conference to consider ways of meeting the farm power problem which is likely to be with us in five or ten years. This rapid decline in horse population, which started about ten years ago, is of the very greatest significance. The time to think about it is now, rather than several years hence, when the price of horses goes sky-high. In that day also, the tractor companies may not be able to turn out their tractors fast enough to meet the consuming demand."

Irish Free State Farmers A Dublin dispatch April 22 states that of the population of the Irish Free State 53 per cent is engaged in agricultural occupations. But less than 13 per cent of the land is cultivated, and the industry is mainly pastoral. Of Ireland's agricultural workers 74 per cent are the farmers and their families, and only 15 per cent are permanent wage earners. The Free State imports much of its food. The average annual import of wheat and flour is 522,783 tons. The country itself produces only 30,000 tons of wheat on an average in a year.

Mexican Colonization Scheme A Mexico City dispatch April 26 says: "The investment of millions of pesos by the Calles Government in irrigation and other projects for agricultural development, including agricultural schools, some of which are already functioning, is likely to show practical results soon, observers here believe. The special commission appointed by order of the President to organize a system of colonization for the immense tracts of land which will soon be sufficiently irrigated and ready for cultivation, met on Monday....The discussion was confined to the fundamental point of whether the Government should take charge of allotting the colonization lands to be irrigated or intrust them to private companies under such conditions as the Mexican Congress might deem advisable to assure an adequate financial return on the capital invested and the development expected in Mexico's financial and economic rehabilitation. The meeting appears to have recommended the second plan as most likely to obtain the credit facilities necessary to handle this enormous proposition...."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture In an editorial on conditions found among chicken canners in New York, The Washington Post to-day says: "Request for the extension of Government inspection to the poultry industry has been made by Health Commissioner Harris of New York....The Department of Agriculture makes an inspection of cattle, hogs and sheep. The supervision is not confined to the various livestock markets. Conditions in breeding centers have been put under scrutiny and improved. The producer as well as the consumer has benefited, for the work of the Government has tended to raise the standards of livestock and to instill public confidence in products derived therefrom. Similar safeguards thrown about the production, sale and manufacture of poultry and poultry products is only a logical development."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products April 26. Livestock prices quoted. Steers, good and choice, \$13.25 to \$14.75; cows, good and choice, \$8.75 to \$11.75; heifers, good and choice, \$12.50 to \$14; vealers, good and choice, \$10 to \$14; feeder and stocker cattle steers, good and choice, \$11.50 to \$12.75; hogs, heavy weight, medium, good and choice, \$9.70 to \$10.45; light lights, medium to choice, \$8.75 to \$10.40; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice, (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations) \$8.25 to \$9.50; slaughter lambs, good and choice, \$15.85 to \$16.75.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring (13% protein) Minneapolis \$1.81 $\frac{1}{4}$ to \$1.89 $\frac{1}{4}$. No.2 red winter Chicago \$2.03; Kansas City \$1.95 to \$2.01. No.2 hard winter (12 $\frac{1}{2}$ % protein) Kansas City \$1.68 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$1.75. No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis) Chicago \$1.67; Kansas City \$1.58 to \$1.60. No.3 mixed corn Chicago \$1.08 to \$1.09; Minneapolis \$1.00 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$1.02 $\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City \$1 to \$1.01. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.10 to \$1.11; Minneapolis \$1.04 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$1.07 $\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City \$1.04 to \$1.05. No.3 white oats Chicago 66 to 71 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 62¢; Kansas City 66 to 67¢.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes closed at \$6.75-\$9.50 per barrel in city markets; mostly \$6.50 f.o.b. Hastings. Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs \$4.25-\$5 per 100 pounds in midwestern markets; mostly \$3.75 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$2.30-\$2.65 in eastern cities; bulk stock \$1.45 f.o.b. Presque Isle. New York Baldwin apples ranged \$7.50-\$9 per barrel in terminal markets; mostly around \$7.50 f.o.b. Rochester. South Carolina pointed type cabbage \$3-\$3.50 per 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper in eastern cities. Texas round type \$110-\$135 bulk per ton in the Middle West; \$75 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Louisiana Klondike strawberries \$3.75-\$4.50 per 24-pint crate in leading city markets; auction sales \$3.10-\$3.32 $\frac{1}{2}$ at Hammond.

May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 29 points to 21.09¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they advanced 45 points to 20.89¢. May futures on the Chicago Board of Trade advanced 48 points to 21¢. The average price of Middling spot cotton in 9 designated markets advanced 22 points to 20.55¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 14.69¢ at 10 designated markets. (Holiday at Savannah)

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 46¢; 91 score, 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 45¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 22 to 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 23 to 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas, 26¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXIX, No. 24

Section 1

April 28, 1928

AIRWAYS CONFERENCE CALLED The first conference to be held for the specific purpose of determining the best uniform designs and methods for marking airways, airports and cities will be held in Wichita May 10 and 11, and Government officials have been invited to participate. Cooperation has been assured for the conference from Assistant Secretary of Commerce MacCracken, head of the branch of civil aviation; Assistant Secretary Warner of the Navy, Assistant Secretary Davidson of the War Department, Secretary Jardine of the Department of Agriculture, Charles F. Marvin and Willis R. Gregg of the Weather Bureau and Second Assistant Postmaster General Glover. (Press, Apr. 27.)

COTTON EXCHANGE CONTROL The Board of Managers of the New York Cotton Exchange announced yesterday a proposed amendment to the by-laws, establishing a control committee with broad powers of regulation and inquisition. Members will consider this proposal on May 9. The proposed committee would have power to fix the maximum limit of cotton contracts to be held by any member in any one month, to investigate the dealings of members of the exchange and examine their books and records; also, to discipline members who fail to comply with orders of the control committee, with the Board of Managers reserving the right to modify or revoke action taken. (Press, Apr. 28.)

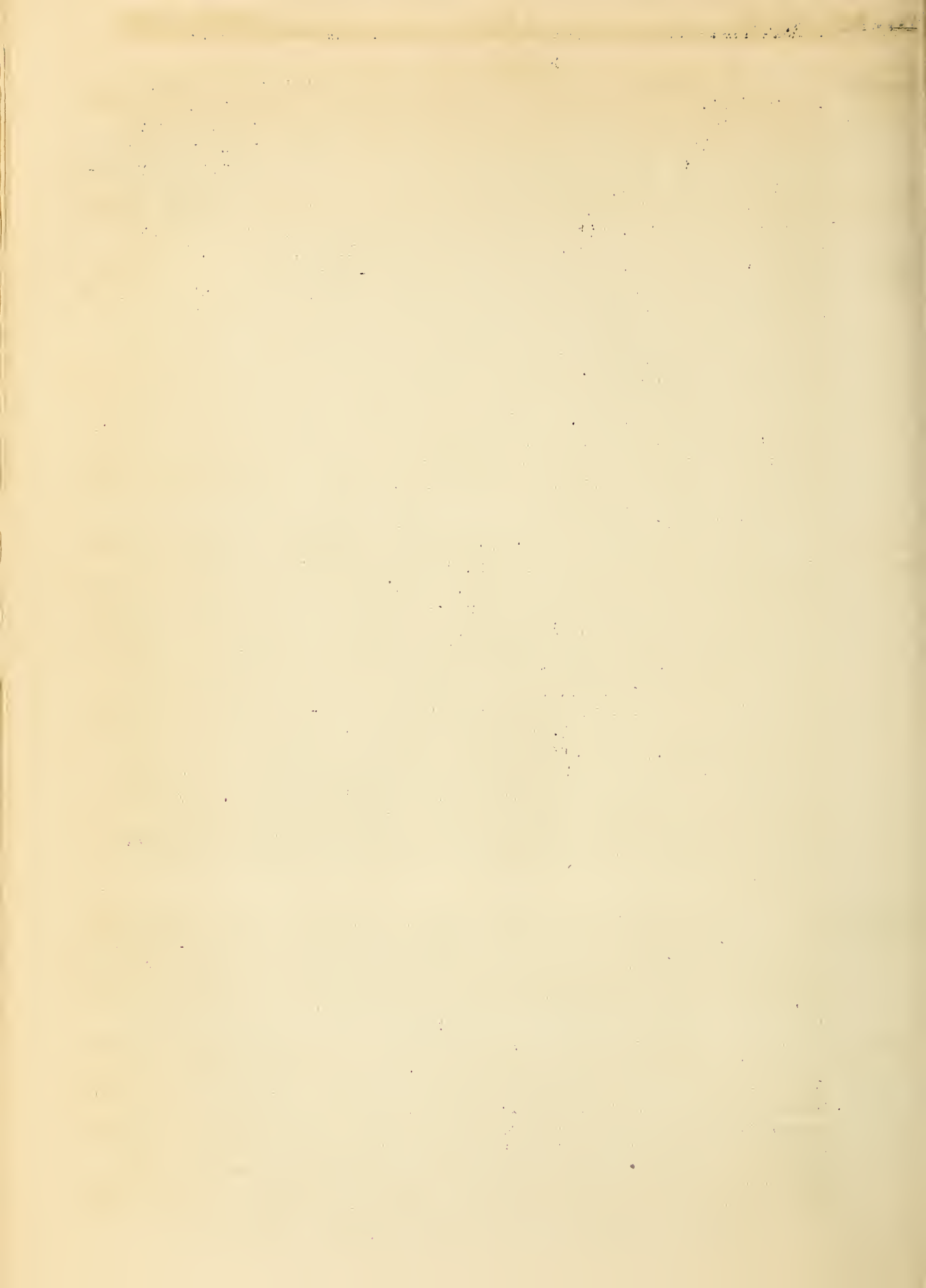
BRITISH COTTON ACT A London dispatch to-day says: "The House of Commons gave second reading and passed through all remaining stages without discussion the cotton industry bill which extends for a period of five years the life of the Cotton Industry Act of 1923. This act imposed a levy of six pence on the sale of every bale bought by spinners in Great Britain, the proceeds being used to further the purposes of the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation, which fosters the growth of cotton within the British Empire. The only change in the new bill is a reduction in the levy from six pence to three pence per bale, with the option of a further reduction if the corporation, with the approval of the Board of Trade, so decides."

THE TAX BILL The press to-day says: "Although the Senate finance committee's \$203,000,000 tax reduction bill ignores the administration's demand for retention of the automobile tax, President Coolidge is ready to approve it. Opposition of the President to the proposal of the committee as well as of the House to wipe out the 3 per cent automobile levy developed again yesterday, but it was made clear that Mr. Coolidge realizes it is the province of Congress to determine how the revenue should be raised.... President Coolidge believes the automobile tax should be employed to raise sufficient funds at least to support the Federal road building enterprises. National road expenditures approximate \$75,000,000 annually and it was estimated the automobile tax yielded \$66,000,000. Meanwhile, the committee completed work yesterday on the \$290,000,000 House bill and Chairman Smoot announced he expected to take it up for consideration in the Senate Thursday."

Section 2

Florida's Citrus Industry An editorial in The Florida Times-Union for April 26 says: "...The Florida State Chamber of Commerce and the organization known as the Committee of Fifty, composed almost exclusively of citrus fruit growers, taking part in the discussions and the formulation of plans, have arrived at definite conclusions, the former being particularly concerned with the orderly marketing of fruit in order that growers may receive increased financial returns on their investments and for their labor, and the latter with growing, grading and packing of the grove products, leaving the manner and method of selling largely with the growers themselves, but under control, grower-exercised, of a clearing house acting as a supervising and directing agency. This latter line of procedure now has reached the stage where, if not less than sixty per cent of citrus fruit grown in the State can be handled in accordance with the plans adopted by the Committee of Fifty and the clearing house proponents, the growers thereof so agreeing, the citrus fruit clearing house will go into operation with the opening of the next marketing season, and not otherwise. Well and good for this movement up to date. It now remains for the growers themselves to decide what they will do about it. So far as can be seen by leading growers, the plan appeals to them and should be put into operation....While the Committee of Fifty has been at work energetically and intelligently, the Florida State Chamber of Commerce has been no less active and with the same purpose in view, the betterment of Florida's citrus industry. To that end, and during the most methodical and searching investigation and study of every feature of the citrus business, an offer came from James C. Penney, head of the Penney-Gwinn Corporation, to give his aid and experience in merchandising on a Nation-wide scale, to the perfecting of plans whereby Florida citrus fruit can be marketed in orderly, businesslike manner, so that much of overhead waste can be eliminated, wider markets secured through extended advertising, and efficient serving of consumers, old and new, in order that citrus fruit growers may get results, financially and otherwise, such as well-directed business is able to get in other lines of industry. This offer of Mr. Penney was accepted unanimously at a meeting of Jacksonville business men, held on Monday of this week, when, also, it was decided to proceed immediately with the incorporation of what is proposed shall be known as the Florida Cooperative Marketing Agency, the financing of which has been fully arranged for, so as to be ready to operate at the opening of the autumn shipping season...."

Land O' Lakes Contests An editorial in The Dairy Record for April 18 says: "Operators' efficiency contests, such as that staged by the Land O' Lakes Creameries during the past year, represent a progressive step. They enable creamery stockholders to fix responsibility for any shortcomings on the operator's part, and to extend recognition to the capable man. As contests, such checks are interesting and as a commercial routine they are valuable, as has been discovered by J.R.Kiethley, manufacturing specialist of the Twin City Milk Producers' Association, who has had a plan of this nature in operation for several years. The Land O' Lakes' plan has been tried only one year, so that undoubtedly there are a number of minor changes which will have to be ironed out, but a good start has been made and we believe that the basic principles will be found workable even under more extended trial....The matter of scoring the operator upon the basis of the quality of the finished product in relation to that of the raw material is an important factor, and one which should be considered if an efficiency contest is to be considered 100% conclusive...."



Paper Con- An Atlantic City dispatch to-day states that at the convention
tainers there of the Glass Container Association of America, S. Henry Ayres, its
research director, described the progress being made by the paper con-
tainer manufacturers and said that it was not an impossibility that
paper would be used for the delivery of milk.

Prune Cooperatives An editorial in The Oregon Farmer for April 19 says: "Steady
In Oregon growth of the North Pacific Cooperative Prune Exchange, which now has
handled four crops of Oregon prunes, has put it in position to expand,
and this it proposes to do along lines already shown to be successful,
namely, the building up of locals rather than the amassing of tonnage.
Earlier in the year, at a Corvallis meeting of representatives of these
locals, it asked a committee of public and semi-public officials to
formulate and unite on a program for sound development of cooperative
marketing in the prune industry; and this committee did so recently at
Eugene. The program was indorsed by the Oregon Cooperative Council, made
up of the leading cooperative marketing agencies in this State, so that
the policy outlined now has the backing of the extension service and the
department of economics and sociology at O.A.C., the State market agent,
the marketing department of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, the
United States Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the prune exchange and
the cooperative council...."

Science in Prof. William Seifriz, University of Pennsylvania, is the author
Russia of a comprehensive article on "Science in Russia To-day" in The Scientific
Monthly for May. He says in part: "There has been no cessation of
scientific research in Russia either during the war or after it. While
the war was on, some, the botanists, for example, found it more advan-
tageous to continue work in an isolated place such as Tiflis--and what
botanist would not seize with delight the opportunity to study the flora
of the Caucasus. But whether in far Georgia or still in the home labo-
ratories at St. Petersburg or Moscow, research continued throughout the
war....The graph at the national herbarium shows a gradual decrease in
the number of plants added until 1920. The previous year, 1919, saw
the low ebb of the revolutionary tide. The winter was extraordinarily
severe. The old and the weak succumbed....Teaching and research still
continued but in classrooms and laboratories where the temperature fell
below 0° C. Since 1920 scientific activity in Russia has been steadily
on the upward trend. The herbarium chart again illustrates this. The
curve indicating the number of specimens added annually to the national
plant collection goes rapidly upward from 4,000 in 1920 to 6,000 in the
next year, then to 36,751 in 1925; 60,968 in 1926; and 90,650 in 1927.
The two factors responsible for the success of Russian science during
the last ten years has been the superb spirit of our colleagues there
and the excellent support which the communistic government has given
them."

Sawtimber R.V.Reynolds is the author of an article entitled "How Long Will
Our Sawtimber Last?" in American Forests and Forest Life for May. He
says in part: "...Strange as it may seem at this time of overproduction,
we are now facing a period of deprivation in quantity, during which the
ample ration of sawtimber, to which Americans have been accustomed, will
be gradually reduced. Faster and faster we must taper off, for con-
sumption must eventually be confined to a quantity no greater than the
annual growth plus such imports as may then be available. The pinch for

sufficient quantity will apparently be felt first in hardwoods, because the limit of the available hardwoods seems to be five to ten years nearer than the limit of the softwoods. Unless the 1920 figures are much less reliable than is believed, the approach of forest exhaustion will rapidly cut down the ration of softwood sawtimber before 1950, and within the latter half of this century Americans will be completely dependent upon what they can grow and what little they can buy from other countries. The prospect for imports at that time is distinctly unfavorable, particularly so for softwoods....If artificial lumber should eventually become as useful as the product sawed from logs, the outlook would be changed in many ways. The available stand would be greatly increased. The timber could be grown to suitable size in much less time. That in turn might have an important bearing on the permanence of production centers. It might also help to put our great areas of idle forest lands at work, an economic problem which to some minds is no less important than that of sawtimber supply...."

Statistics

Dr. Virgil Jordan, Chief Economist of the National Industrial Conference Board, in a speech recently delivered in New York, said: "Despite the enormous amount of statistical information and expert opinion about business to-day, there was probably no time in recent years at which business men and the general public had less real understanding of business conditions or prospects than they have now. Many of the difficulties in American business to-day, as well as some of the unpleasant features of the labor situation, are clearly the result of a misinterpretation of business conditions during the past five years. The average citizen has unconsciously become a victim of the delusion that everything expressed in figures is an exact statement of fact or has some definite meaning. Statistics have ceased to be of as much practical aid to business men as they might be, and have become instead a psychological instrument in the hands of public officials and special interests used to form public opinion regarding economic conditions. Any one who reads the newspapers to-day can see how the same frail figures, of dubious or forgotten origin, go through the endless reincarnations at the hands of public speakers, publicity men, bank circular and special feature writers and everybody whose business it is to tell the world about business. The current pronouncements about unemployment are for the most part only endless rehashes of the same stale statistics, cribbed one from the other, and serve merely to conceal our ignorance about what is happening and to excuse our indolence in trying to find out."

Wool Market

Chicago Journal of Commerce April 24 says: "The domestic wool market maintains a waiting attitude. This is said to be due partly to the unsatisfactory trade in the goods market and because of the fact that buyers are operating quite freely in the growing sections of the country and consequently are willing to consider the market slow. Reports from the western sections of the country indicate a scattering of purchases at a variety of prices. In Oregon some of the fine wools have been sold at 33 to 35¢ per pound and in Texas some merchandise has changed hands at a range of from 41 to 43½¢ for the choice twelve months wools. In the bright wool sections, such as Ohio and Michigan, the small growers want at least 45¢ and this figure has been realized in New York State in more than one instance and even up to 46¢."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products April 27. Prices of livestock: Steers, good and choice, \$13.25 to \$14.75; cows, good and choice, \$8.60 to \$11.75; heifers, good and choice, \$12.50 to \$14; vealers, good and choice, \$10.50 to \$14.50; feeder and stocker cattle steers, good and choice, \$11.50 to \$12.75; hogs, heavy weight, medium, good and choice, \$9.60 to \$10.40; light lights, medium to choice, \$9 to \$10.40; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations) \$8.50 to \$9.75. Lambs, good and choice, \$16 to \$17.10.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring (13% protein) Minneapolis \$1.85½ to \$1.93½. No.2 red winter Chicago \$2.03; Kansas City \$1.70 to \$1.77. No.2 hard winter (12½% protein) Kansas City \$1.70 to \$1.77. No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis) Chicago \$1.68½; Kansas City \$1.58 to \$1.61. No.3 mixed corn Chicago \$1.07½ to \$1.09; Minneapolis \$1.01 to \$1.03; Kansas City 99¢ to \$1.00½. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.09½ to \$1.10½; Minneapolis \$1.05 to \$1.08; Kansas City \$1.04 to \$1.05. No.3 white oats Chicago 65¾ to 71¼¢; Minneapolis 61 1/8 to 62 5/8¢; Kansas City 66½ to 67½¢.

May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 21 points to 21.30¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they were up 20 points at 21.09¢. May futures on the Chicago Board of Trade advanced 13 points to 21.13¢. The average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 20 points to 20.75¢ per lb. On the same day last season the price stood at 14.61¢.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes sold at \$7-\$9 per barrel in city markets; \$5.50-\$6 f.o.b. Hastings. Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs \$4-\$5 per 100 pounds in the Middle West; mostly around \$3.50 f.o.b. Lower Valley points. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$2.30-\$2.65 in eastern cities; bulk stock mostly \$1.60 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites mostly \$1.75-\$1.85 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.60-\$1.65 f.o.b. Waupaca. Texas yellow Bermuda onions ranged mostly \$2-\$2.75 per crate in consuming centers; \$1.75-\$1.80 f.o.b. Laredo. New York Baldwin apples closed at \$8-\$9 per barrel in city markets; \$7.75-\$8 f.o.b. Rochester. South Carolina pointed type cabbage \$3-\$3.75 per 1½-bushel hamper in eastern cities. Alabama pointed type \$6-\$6.25 per barrel crate in Chicago.

Closing price of 92 score butter at New York was 45¢.

Closing prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats 22-22½¢; Young Americas 26¢; Single Daisies 23-23½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXIX, No. 25

Section 1

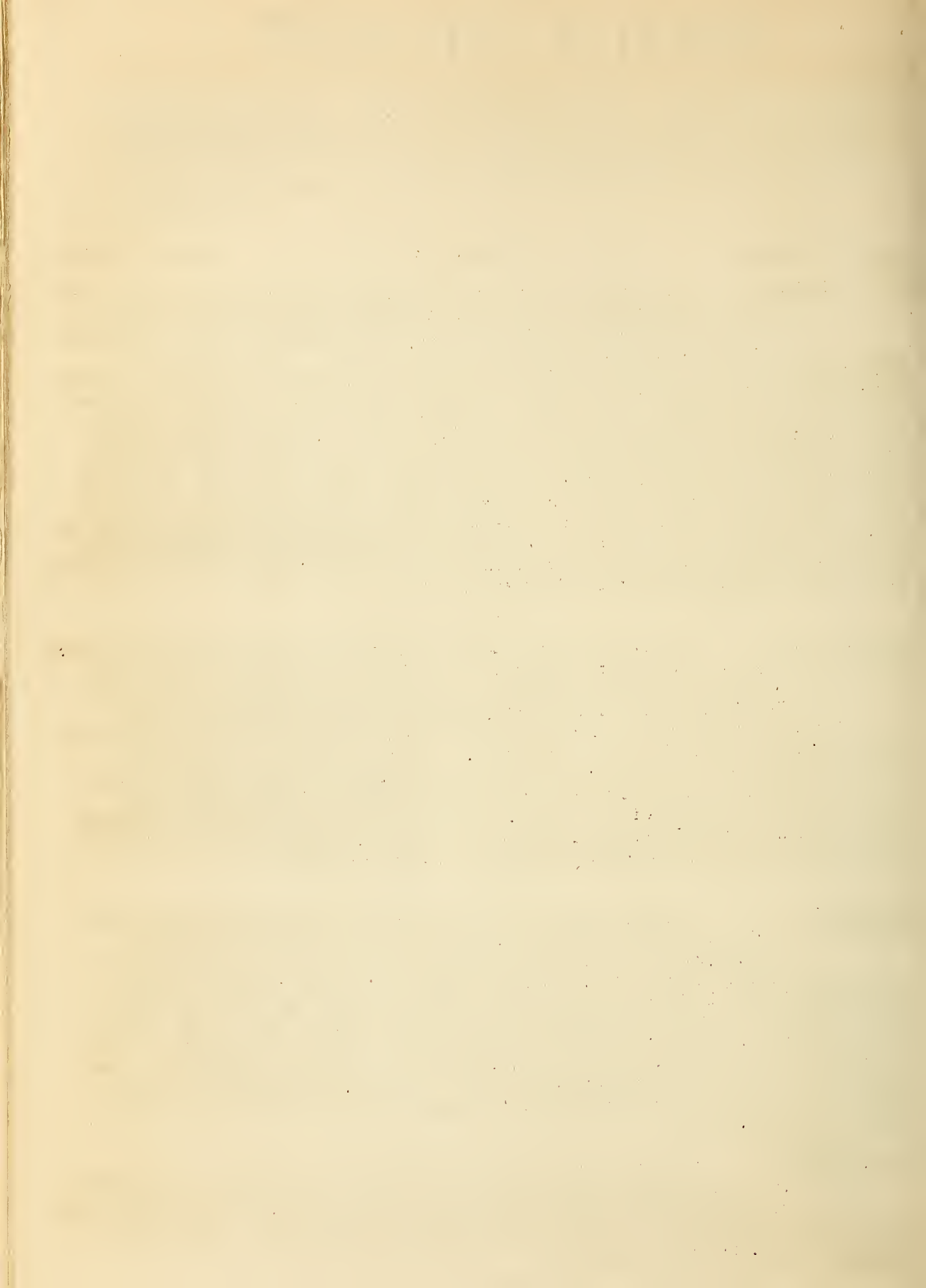
April 30, 1928.

BILLS IN CONGRESS The press to-day says: "Congress will wrestle this week with two major pieces of legislation--the Swing-Johnson Boulder Canyon Dam bill and the McNary-Haugen farm relief measure--with considerable speculation on their chances of becoming law this session. In the Senate the fight which started on the Boulder Dam bill last week promises to continue without abatement until Thursday, when, unless the bill should pass, it will be displaced to give the tax bill the right of way. Up until that time it is expected that Senator Johnson of California will continue his battle in behalf of the Boulder Canyon proposal with Senator Ashurst of Arizona maintaining with equal vigor the opposition that his State from the first has voiced against the bill. The House will resume debate to-day on the farm measure where it was dropped Friday afternoon when adjournment was taken out of respect to Representative Martin Madden, of Illinois....With the issue over tax reduction well drawn between Republicans and Democrats, a quick decision is expected in the Senate this week, when the \$203,000,000 measure is brought up for consideration...."

FEDERAL SALARY LEGISLATION The press to-day reports: "Interest in the movement for better pay for Government employees will shift to the Senate to-day, when Senator Smoot will introduce a new and more liberal pay-raise bill. The Smoot bill would add \$18,000,000 to the Government pay roll, \$2,000,000 more than would be added by the modified Welch bill, which has been approved by the House civil service committee. A large part of the additional \$2,000,000 would be used to increase the maximum salary of bureau heads and professional and scientific employees from \$7,500 to \$9,000. This increase was recommended by the Bureau of the Budget, but was cut out by the House committee. The Smoot bill also will provide increases for other employees not taken care of in the bill tentatively approved by the House committee...."

TAX RECEIPTS Internal revenue taxes collected on automobiles and motorcycles for the first nine months of the fiscal year 1928 were \$41,046,991, as against \$46,921,222 in the same period in 1927, a loss of \$5,874,231. Of this tax, which is paid by the manufacturer, Michigan paid \$29,550,958 in 1928, as against \$34,669,062 in 1927. In the first nine months of the fiscal year the cigarette tax yielded \$223,527,248, a new record. This was \$20,000,546 more than was collected in the same period of 1927. Of the cigarette tax, North Carolina paid \$134,475,372 and Virginia, \$43,254,321. The taxes paid on cigars and manufactured tobacco and snuff, \$17,590,945 and \$52,693,697, respectively, were practically the same as for the first nine months of 1927. (Press, Apr. 30.)

REDISCOUNT RATE Federal Reserve credit policies took on increased importance in stock market considerations last week, with renewed evidence that conditions are shaping themselves toward an advance in the rediscount rate at New York, following the upward adjustments already made at five other regional centers. (Press, Apr. 30.)



Section 2

Asparagus "For their own protection the Florida asparagus growers should in Florida form a cooperative selling organization that will standardize grades and packing and come to an agreement with the wholesalers as to a seasonal price (or prices) that would make it satisfactory to the latter to buy direct instead of handling on consignment. With such an organization, all parties would be in a position to mitigate the effect of both gluts and shortages which occur every season. When this cooperation is brought about, as it must be before long, it will make a successful, steady business out of what is now a wild scramble with each one for himself and 'the devil take the hindmost.' "(W.A.Cline, in Florists Exchange, Apr. 28.)

Banks and Agriculture An editorial in Indiana Farmer's Guide for April 28 says: "The banks in most Indiana towns are more or less dependent, directly or indirectly, upon the farming industry for their very existence, and consequently it is to their interest to do everything possible for the agricultural interests of their community. At almost every bankers' association meeting somebody makes a plea to the bankers to 'do something for agriculture.' Many of the efforts that bankers have made in this direction have proven ineffective and lacking in permanent results, largely because most bankers have scant understanding of what a community really needs in the nature of development work. Most bankers know, in a general way, of the value of dairy records, fertilizers, purebred stock, and so on; but when it comes to actually analyzing the needs of a community and selecting some project that will really work, that the bank can sponsor, the average banker is hopelessly lost. The Citizens State Bank of Newcastle has approached this problem in a way that seems to us essentially sound, and one that will be productive of results, both for the bank and for the community. Some months ago this bank employed R.H.Hardin, a farm owner who lives on his farm and who has had experience as a county agent. Mr. Hardin's daily duties are those of a teller, but his special assignment is the development of country business and the selection and supervision of all rural extension projects that may be undertaken. Such a plan may not be possible for every bank that is desirous of developing the agriculture of the community, but it appeals to us as a most logical plan, and one that should bring permanent and productive results."

Business Conditions In a summary of general business and financial conditions throughout the several Federal Reserve Districts, based upon statistics for the months of March and April, the Federal Reserve Board says: "Industrial production during March was in about the same volume as in February and there was a seasonal increase in the distribution of commodities. Wholesale prices remained practically unchanged. During the past month there have been increases in bank credit in use and in member bank borrowing at the reserve banks, and open market money rates have shown further advances. Production of manufactures was maintained during March at the high level reached in February, and the output of minerals also showed little change. Production of passenger automobiles and trucks during March totaled 413,000, the largest output recorded for any month since August 1926, and production schedules in automobile plants continued large during April. Activity in the iron and steel industry was also maintained at a high level during March and April, and lumber production was in larger volume than a year ago. Cotton and wool

consumption declined in March, but silk deliveries were the largest on record. There was some decline in meat-packing and in the production of sole leather, and the output of boots and shoes in March showed less than the usual seasonal increase. Mining of bituminous coal decreased during March by less than the usual seasonal amount, but as the result of a strike in certain middle western mines, production in the early weeks of April was considerably curtailed. Building contracts awarded were smaller in March than a year ago, while those for the first three weeks in April were in about the same volume as in the corresponding period of last year.

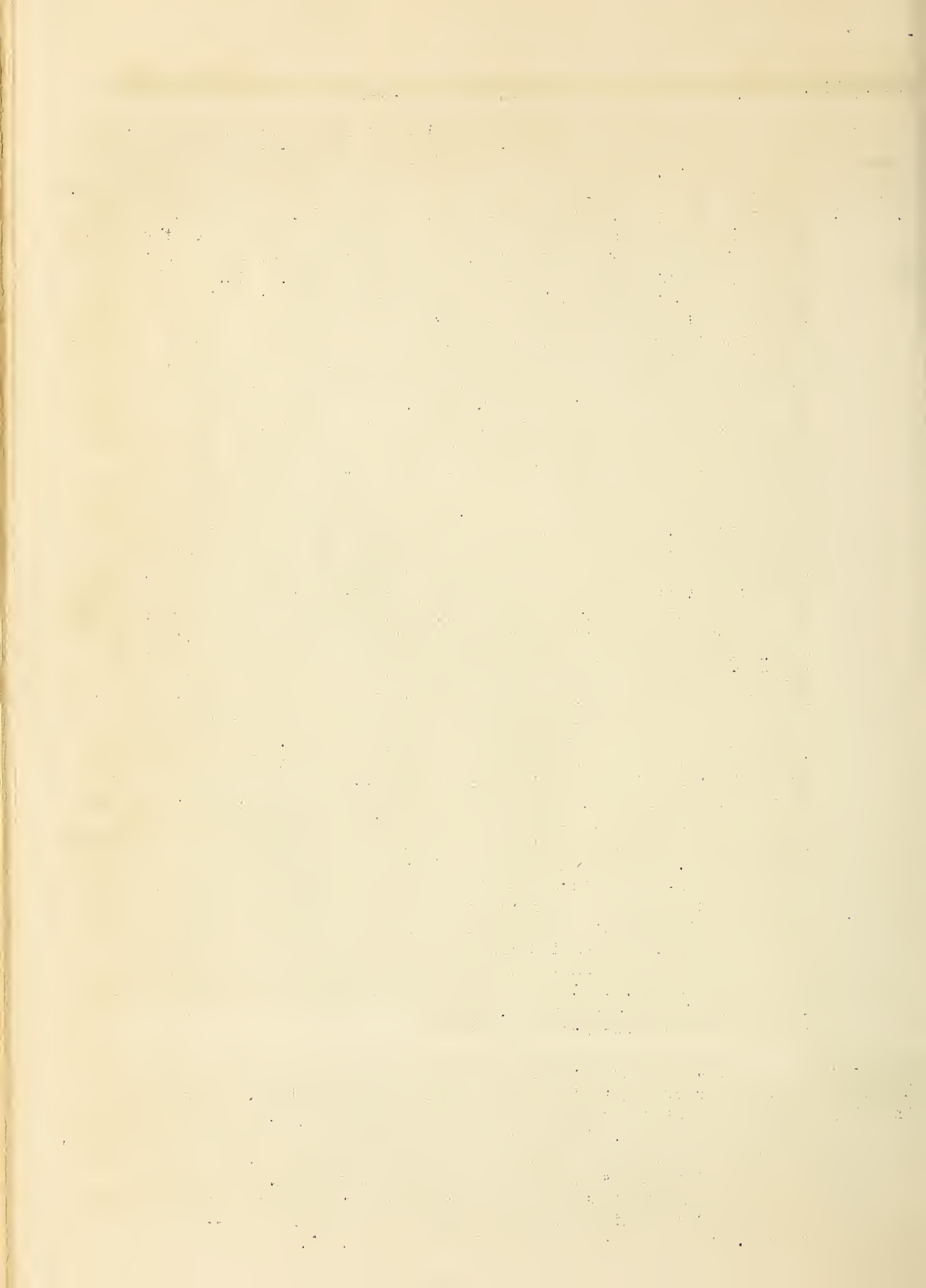
Employment Employment in the United States for the next ten years will maintain about the same average as during the last nineteen, according to estimates given by Dr. H.W.Moorhouse, president of the Brookmire Economic Service, Inc., to the financial executives' conference of the American Management Association at New York, April 27. The average unemployment in the United States during the last nineteen years, he said, was 874,100, which represents 2 per cent of the total employed. "The United States Department of Labor, in a report to Congress on March 24, estimated the number of unemployed to be 1,874,050," Mr. Moorhouse said. "Other estimates, obviously wild, have gone as high as 6,000,000. For 1927, average unemployment can be placed at 1,466,000 and for March, 1928, at 2,632,000, as compared with 3,653,000 for total unemployment in 1921, the largest number for the years between 1910 and 1928. The future holds plenty of work for every one. Electricity will be generated at the mines. Railroads will be electrified. Airplanes will travel the world over, with landing bases in midocean."

German Hog An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for April 27 says: "Last year, Production as most of our readers know, Germany slaughtered about 30 per cent more hogs than she did the year preceding. This was one big reason for hog prices going so low in the United States last winter. Word comes now, however, that Germany is cutting down on her hog breeding operations in the same way that farmers in the United States are doing. Apparently, the hog cycle is world-wide in its effects. By late 1929 or 1930, it is probable that there will be a hog scarcity in not only Germany and the United States, but also in Denmark and England. The prices which have proved so discouraging to our hog farmers this past winter have also been hard on farmers in other countries."

German Potash Industry Negotiations for a special potash by-products syndicate have been renewed in Germany, according to reports current in that country, it is stated in advices received at Washington, April 27, from the American Consul at Frankfort. A recent attempt in that direction failed, it is said. Proponents of the desired syndicate or cartel hope to form an organization in which the members' quotas will be determined according to their quotas in the potash syndicate. This hope is said to meet with much opposition, and it is declared to have been the cause of the first failure to form the proposed cartel, the opposition being based on the fact that the by-products output of a number of producers does not tally with their potash syndicate quotas, which would place some at a considerable advantage and others at a disadvantage. (Press, Apr. 28.)

Industrial An editorial in Farm & Fireside for May says: "Some day we are
Uses for going to wake up to the fact that American agriculture has been in the
Agricultural throes of a revolution. As a result no more serious task confronts
tural each individual farmer than that of adjusting his plans to the new con-
Products ditions. The revolution is not over. We are still in its midst. The
National Industrial Conference Board, on figures computed by the United
States Census Bureau, states that 'the output per worker in agriculture
was 47 per cent higher in 1925 than it was in 1899.' During the same
period the output per worker in industry was 49 per cent higher. The
farmer's efficiency has grown nearly as fast as has the manufacturer's.
Where the trouble comes is in the sale of the output. Industry is con-
tinually developing new products that meet increasing desires. It also
creates new desires that didn't even exist before. The automobile and
the radio are two outstanding examples. The public continues to absorb
the new products of the factory, usually at a profit. Farmers, on the
other hand, are producing mostly the same old things for the same old
human want: food to satisfy hunger. Each farm worker is producing
nearly half again as much food as he did in 1899. But there are not
47 per cent more people to eat it, nor are the available people 47 per
cent hungrier. The twentieth-century revolution in industry has made
the country richer in consumable new wealth. The twentieth-century
revolution in agriculture threatened to make the farmers poorer. The
displacement of human muscle by power, machinery and scientific methods
is as desirable in agriculture as it is in industry. But bigger machin-
ery and higher production either in factory or farm constantly releases
men no longer needed. What is the individual farmer to do about all
this? One step is to fit into his production scheme the crops and
products for which there is most demand at profitable prices; another is
to get into the very front trench of the revolutionary movement by
adopting the means and methods that bring low cost, high returns and
wide margins. Where practicable to grow some particular high-quality
specialty for a limited but liberal market--that is one way out. The
whole problem of selling the farm output must be assailed with new in-
telligence and vigor. Some means for collecting and marketing farm
products must be found that is as economical and efficient as the chain-
store system. Organized groups of farmers must protect their interest
by getting after the local tax injustice on a State-wide basis. By no
means least, the power of farmers, both individual and organized, must
badger the Department of Agriculture and the experiment stations into
realizing the idiocy of indefinitely expanding food production. We
must be enabled to farm for crops that industry with its illimitable
needs can consume, instead of piling the tables still higher in front
of an already well-fed public. More new industrial uses for more agri-
cultural products--that's the answer."

Rediscount The present situation in the business of the United States is
Rates and healthy, according to the views of Treasury officials. Increases in
Industry the rediscount rates have not been felt materially in the industrial
world, it was said. There are some bad spots in the industrial picture,
but several industries, such as steel and automobiles, are showing en-
couraging tendencies, according to official reports. Officials,
however, added that there are no pronounced tendencies, it having been
explained that business may be compared to a human being--"in good
health, but not gaining weight." (Press, Apr. 27.)



Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products April 28. Livestock prices quoted: Heavy weight hogs, medium, good and choice, \$9.55 to \$10.35; light lights, medium to choice, \$8.90 to \$10.35; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice, \$8.40 to \$9.60, (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations) \$8.40 to \$9.60.

Grain prices quoted: No.2 red winter Chicago \$2.17; Kansas City \$1.97 to \$2.07. No.2 hard winter (12½% protein) Kansas City, \$1.75 to \$1.82. No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis) Chicago \$1.72; Kansas City \$1.61 to \$1.63. No.3 mixed corn Chicago \$1.07½; Kansas City 99½¢ to \$1.00½. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.09 to \$1.10¼; Kansas City \$1.04 to \$1.05. No.3 white oats Chicago 70 to 73½¢; Kansas City 66½¢ to 67½¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 3 points, closing at 20.71¢ per lb. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 5 points to 21.25¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they declined 8 points to 21.01¢.

Prices of new potatoes declined sharply; old stock slightly weaker. Florida Spaulding Rose closed at \$6.75-\$8.50 per barrel in eastern cities; mostly \$5.50 f.o.b. Hastings. Maine sacked Green Mountains sold at \$2.25-\$2.65 per 100 pounds in eastern markets; bulk stock \$1.60-\$1.70 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.75-\$1.85 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.60-\$1.65 f.o.b. Waupaca. Louisiana Klondike strawberries firm in the Middle West at \$4-\$4.50 per 24-pint crate; auction sales \$3.40-\$3.75 at Hammond. Cabbage tending slightly downward. South Carolina pointed type brought \$2.75-\$3.25 per 1½-bushel hamper in the East. Alabama pointed and round type ranged \$5.50-\$5.75 per barrel crate in a few markets. Texas yellow Bermuda onions were dull and slightly weaker in some northern cities, at \$2-\$2.75 per crate. F.O.B. sales at Laredo ranged \$1.65-\$1.80 per crate.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 45¢; 91 score, 44¾¢; 90 score, 44½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 22 to 22½¢; Single Daisies, 23 to 23½¢; Young Americas, 26¢.
(Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXIX, No. 26

Section 1

May 1, 1928.

WHEAT SURVEY ASKED The Senate yesterday adopted the Walsh resolution directing the Interstate Commerce Commission to report on what advantages Canadian wheat growers have over American wheat growers in shipping their product to eastern ports, according to to-day's press.

FARM BOARD REPORT ASKED The press to-day reports: "A demand that Secretary Mellon send immediately to the Senate the annual report on the Federal Farm Loan Board was made in a resolution offered yesterday by Senator Blease of South Carolina....Secretary Mellon said there was no serious condition that he knew of in connection with the Farm Loan Board activities....The report, he said, was in course of preparation and will be sent to Congress as soon as it is completed."

BROKER LOANS The Senate banking committee yesterday favorably reported the LaFollette resolution directing the Federal Reserve Board to take steps to curb the increase in brokers' loans by members of the Federal Reserve system. (Press, May 1.)

FEDERAL SALARY BILL The press to-day says: "With the introduction of the Smoot bill yesterday, the Senate and the House now are in a race to see which can first pass a bill to increase the pay of Government employees. The bill introduced in the Senate yesterday by Senator Reed Smoot is substantially the same as the Welch bill in the House. However, it adds \$2,000,000 more to the Federal pay roll than does the Welch bill. The principal difference between the Smoot bill and the Welch bill is that the former increases the maximum salary in the professional and scientific grades from \$7,500 to \$9,000. This increase was cut out by the House civil service committee, but it may be put back in before the bill is finally reported...."

ALIEN CATTLE REGULATIONS Special regulations have been provided by the Canadian Government for the admission temporarily, duty free, of cattle for feeding or pasturage, according to the press of April 29. The Department of National Revenue, according to a report, has published Customs Memorandum No. 89 for the temporary importation of cattle in bond, conditional upon their being re-exported within one year. The regulations provide that cattle imported for the purposes specified shall be reported through the nearest customs port, which is also an animal quarantine station or an inspection station, and in the case of importations from the United States must be accompanied by a tuberculin test chart signed or indorsed by an officer of the Bureau of Animal Industry.

Section 2

Egg Export

An editorial in Indiana Farmer's Guide for April 28 says:

"Newspapers recently carried the story of the British steamer, Gothic Star, that left San Francisco for Buenos Aires with 18,000,000 eggs aboard. Cooperative associations in California and Washington supplied the eggs, which, of course, were shipped under refrigeration. In South America, where they have summer when we are having winter, and vice versa, they are going into the season of egg scarcity and consequent high prices at the present time. Since the prices are low in the United States because of the heavy spring production, it is more profitable to ship to the southern hemisphere than to sell at home. One of the most interesting features surrounding this shipment is that it is being made to fill a demand formerly supplied by the poultry men along the Atlantic Coast. We thus have the interesting situation of the cooperatives in the West competing with similar organizations in the East...."

Intermediate

An editorial in The Farmer (St. Paul) says: "An official of the Credit in Federal Land Bank System recently expressed wonderment at the rapid the North- growth in the use of intermediate forms of credit in the Northwestern west States. His wonderment is explainable by the fact that the St. Paul Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, associated with and operated under the supervision of the St. Paul Federal Land Bank, now leads all such institutions of the entire United States in the volume of money loaned through agricultural credit corporations. These loans total \$7,250,000. The loans have been mainly used for financing cooperatives, for the purchase of stocker and feeder cattle, and for the building of breeding and dairy herds. Since the bank was established five years ago, 150 institutions have rediscounted farmers' notes with the St. Paul bank, representing 13,000 loans and 12,000 renewals with a gross total of \$25,000,000 in loans. The extensive use of intermediate credit in the Northwest, the territory served by the St. Paul institution, is easily explained. First, this territory during the past five years has probably made more progress in diversified and livestock farming than any other section of the United States. Second, farmers have learned how to use intermediate forms of credit by experience, first with the War Finance Corporation and later with such institutions as the Northwestern Agricultural Credit Corporation, the Bankers' Dairy Credit Corporation, and similar organizations. Third, northwestern farmers are learning rapidly how cheaper credit can be obtained through the employment of cooperative organizations in seeking such credit...."

Land Prices

An editorial, answering the question, "Do We Want High-Priced Land?" in The Farm Journal for May says: "Such predictions are always dangerous, but it seems to us that in most sections the price of farm land is now at its low point, or slightly past it. In making such a statement of opinion, we well know that we shall receive many wrathful denials. Some will say 'You're wrong; farms around here can't be sold at any price.' Others will write 'You're wrong; just try to buy good land around here and see what out-of-sight prices they want for it.' 'Tis ever thus. Yet we humbly stick by our opinion that in no section are prices apt to go much lower, and in many places there will be a rise. On the other hand, should land prices rise? Is it the best thing for farming that the most expensive part of the farm plant should be the subject of speculation? The manufacturer does not, as a rule, look on his plant in this light. To him, an increase in the market value of

his real estate and equipment is more apt to be a source of annoyance and worry. He does not want his fixed assets high in price. He does not want to have to earn profits on any more frozen capital than he can help. The manufacturer has to buy, build and equip his plant. But he wants to put as little money into it as he can, and he is perfectly satisfied to have its value stay at the bottom. He did not buy it to sell, but to use. Unlike many farmers, he expects to stay in business; or if he sells, he expects to get a profitable price not on his plant, but on the going business value, the good-will and earning capacity that he has built into the enterprise. Is it not possible that something of this point of view is what is needed in our farming business as well?"

Machinery An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for April 28 says: "The
Manufacturer University of Nebraska has recently honored the man who is responsi-
Honored ble for the development of the two-row corn cultivator, which has later
proven such a great factor in lowering the cost of corn production all
over the corn belt. That man is C.B. Dempster, pioneer farm implement
manufacturer of Nebraska. The honor is a well deserved one. The history
of farm machinery manufacturing in this country brings to light the
names of many other persons whose contributions in the form of improved
farm machinery have been greater factors in the development of American
agriculture than they are generally given credit for. Some of these
machines which, in their time, were such marvelous inventions, have in
the march of progress given way to more modern equipment; but the ma-
chine, no matter how primitive, has served its useful purpose in the
development of a great industry...."

Mass Pro- Paul M. Mazur is the author of an article entitled "Mass
duction Production--Has it Committed Suicide?" in The American Review of
Reviews for May. He says in part: "...In the serenading of volume,
mass production has used not only new tunes, but has sung both old and
new ditties more frequently and with greater lung power. Advertising
appropriations have increased, markets have been broadened, sales
persuasion has been intensified. Volume has resulted, but the cost of
distribution has increased. Hundreds of critics have raised their
voices against the high cost of distribution; but there seems to have
been no whisper against the production demands that have required that
increased cost. Regardless of the validity of these attacks of our
economic analysts, it is true that the economies of large-scale produc-
tion are being offset by the increased cost of obtaining sales which
make it possible to maintain the desired manufacturing schedules. An
uninterrupted program of such a development will guarantee the speedy
arrival of 'profitless prosperity' if not 'darned deficits.'...It is a
strange impasse toward which industrial development seems to be headed
under the impetus of mass production. Born of the benefits of low-cost
manufacturing, mass production has required tremendously increasing
sales volume to maintain the potency of the magic abracadabra that has
furnished millions of low-priced units to millions of average Americans.
In the process of harvesting the necessary sales, new fields and new
and costly cultivation have become increasingly necessary. Some of the
sales methods are offsetting the economies of mass production; while
another--style--is destroying the possibility of the fullest use of
standardization and continuity of production. The conflict is real.
Unrestrained mass production will continue to build its enemies until
disaster overtakes all, or else--or else a new era of American business
calls forth a new philosophy of business, a new god of industry."

Radio Advance Under any reallocation plan which will be worked out by the in South Federal Radio Commission as the result of the recently passed law, the South will probably show more development in radio than any other section of the country, according to Judge Eugene O. Sykes, of Mississippi, vice chairman and radio commissioner for the third zone. It is reported that more than \$1,000,000 worth of broadcasting material has been ordered for the South since the enactment of the recent amendment to the radio law of 1927, and while Judge Sykes says that he has not heard this, he declared that he readily believed it. He now has on file, it is understood, dozens of applications in his zone for both increases in power and the erection of new stations. (Press, Apr. 29.)

Rubber Restriction-- An editorial on the rubber decision in The Statist (London) for April 14 says: "...The scheme, though cumbersome, served its purpose as a 'temporary palliative,' and having done so should have been withdrawn or modified, certainly not rendered still more drastic by the raising of the pivotal price. The commodity was not stabilized as had been hoped, but, on the contrary, fluctuated violently....The scheme has had two effects: The first has been the stimulus given to production outside Imperial territory; the second the greatly increased use of 'reclaimed' rubber. The result of these two factors has been to reduce the British proportion of the total rubber supplied from 73 per cent to about 50 per cent within the past five years, notwithstanding that during that period the aggregate requirements of the consuming industries have largely increased. The British producers were doubtless justified in the sacrifice which they originally made for the general welfare of the industry, but to have continued restriction--and, still worse, to have made it more drastic--when the crisis was passed was merely to court disaster. The Government has, therefore, done wisely in deciding to abolish restriction as from November 1....As matters have turned out, it is now to be regretted that the restriction scheme was ever introduced, for the industry is faced with almost as serious a position as arose five years ago, and the British planters have, in the meantime, lost much of their former ascendancy, while both they and the Dutch have now to meet the serious menace of native production, conducted on lines uneconomic for European companies. The interval between now and November may afford time for the working out of a temporary restriction scheme embracing both the Dutch and British producers, but this hope is a slender one...."

Wage Rates The rate of wages of bakers in the United States increased from 92.5 cents per hour in May, 1926 to 95.7 cents in May, 1927. The building trades as a whole increased from \$1.278 to \$1.323 per hour. Bricklayers went from an average of \$1.565 to \$1.603, carpenters from \$1.267 to \$1.311, painters from \$1.305 to \$1.349, plasterers from \$1.595 to \$1.628 and plumbers from \$1.381 to \$1.409. With few exceptions the building trades generally showed similar changes. Slight reductions are shown both in the granite cutters and stone cutters rates, the combined rate receding from \$1.330 to \$1.321. Chauffeurs, teamsters and drivers showed a substantial increase from 66.3 cents in 1926 to 70.4 cents in 1927, while laundry workers, linemen and longshoremen each declined very slightly. The group of book and job printing trades increased from 99.7 cents per hour to \$1.021 and the newspaper printing trades from \$1.155 to \$1.190. All trades covered except bus drivers, and street railway motormen and conductors, increased from \$1.148 to \$1.190. Motormen and conductors increased from 66.2 cents in 1926 to 68.2 cents in 1927. (Dept. of Labor press statement, Apr., 30.)

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products April 30. Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring (13% protein) Minneapolis \$1.92 $\frac{7}{8}$ to \$2.00 $\frac{7}{8}$. No.2 red winter Chicago \$2.21; Kansas City \$2.03 to \$2.10. No.2 hard winter (12 $\frac{1}{2}$ % protein) Kansas City \$1.78 to \$1.85. No. 2 hard winter (not on protein basis) Chicago \$1.73 $\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City \$1.63 to \$1.66. No.3 mixed corn Chicago \$1.09; Minneapolis \$1.05 to \$1.07; Kansas City \$1.01 to \$1.04 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.09 $\frac{1}{4}$ to \$1.12 $\frac{1}{4}$; Minneapolis \$1.10 to \$1.12; Kansas City \$1.06 to \$1.07 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.3 white oats Chicago 66 to 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ ϕ ; Minneapolis 60 $\frac{7}{8}$ to 62 $\frac{3}{8}$ ϕ ; Kansas City 67 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 68 $\frac{1}{2}$ ϕ .

Livestock prices quoted: Steers, good and choice, \$13.25 to \$14.90; cows, good and choice, \$8.60 to \$11.75; heifers, good and choice, \$12.50 to \$14; vealers, good and choice, \$10.50 to \$14.50; feeder and stocker cattle steers, good and choice, \$11.50 to \$12.75; heavy weight hogs, medium, good and choice, \$9.50 to \$10.35; light lights, medium to choice, \$8.90 to \$10.35; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice, \$8.25 to \$9.50; (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice, \$16.25 to \$17.15.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes sold at \$7-\$8 per barrel in leading markets; mostly \$5.50 f.o.b. Hastings. Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs \$3.75-\$4.75 per 100 pounds in midwestern cities; \$3.25-\$3.50 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$2.25-\$2.65 per 100 pounds in eastern markets; bulk stock \$1.60-\$1.70 f.o.b. Presque Isle. New York Baldwin apples closed at \$8-\$9.50 per barrel in terminal markets; \$8 f.o.b. Rochester. Louisiana Klondike strawberries mostly \$4-\$4.50 per 24-pint crate in distributing centers; auction sales \$3.52 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$4.17 $\frac{1}{2}$ at Hammond. Texas yellow Bermuda onions brought \$2-\$2.75 per standard crate in consuming centers; mostly \$1.75 f.o.b. Laredo.

May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 37 points to 21.62 ϕ , and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they advanced 34 points to 21.35 ϕ . May futures on the Chicago Board of Trade advanced 23 points to 21.25 ϕ . The average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets was up 38 points to 21.09 ϕ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 14.74 ϕ .

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 45 ϕ ; 91 score, 44 $\frac{3}{4}$ ϕ ; 90 score, 44 $\frac{1}{2}$ ϕ .

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 22 to 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ϕ ; Single Daisies, 23 to 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ϕ ; Young Americas, 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ϕ to 26 ϕ . (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXIX, No. 27

Section 1

May 2, 1928.

THE PRESIDENT AND FLOOD BILL The press to-day says: "President Coolidge has not abandoned his opposition to the flood control bill. He finds, with every change made in the bill in its progress through Congress, that the financial features have been made more unacceptable. His attitude yesterday indicated that he has a veto in mind. The President considers that the measure has been made to serve too many interests and overlooks the interests of the people in the flooded area...."

THE TAX BILL Following administration ideas, the Senate finance committee yesterday reported to the Senate a bill carrying a total tax reduction of \$200,085,000, or \$1,000,000 less than the limit of safety set by Secretary Mellon and \$85,650,000 lower than the tax cut approved by the House. Chairman Smoot of the committee stated that the bill would be taken up for debate on Thursday and kept before the Senate until disposed of. It is believed that the bill can be completed within a week or ten days. (Press, May 2.)

FEDERAL SALARY BILL The press to-day reports: "To save time and hasten a vote, the House civil service committee may substitute the Smoot bill for the Welch bill, it was learned yesterday. Both bills provide raises for Government employees, but the Smoot bill would add \$2,000,000 more to the pay roll than the Welch bill, and would take care of more employees...."

PENSION LEGISLATION Action on the Dale bill to liberalize the civil service retirement law was blocked in the Senate yesterday by Senator Cole Blease of South Carolina. The South Carolina senator said he would be in favor of the retirement bill when the Government was ready to pension the farmers in his State. Representative Lehlbach, chairman of the House civil service committee and author of a retirement bill almost similar to the Dale bill, has requested the rules committee for a special rule so as to insure consideration of the measure. (Press, May 2.)

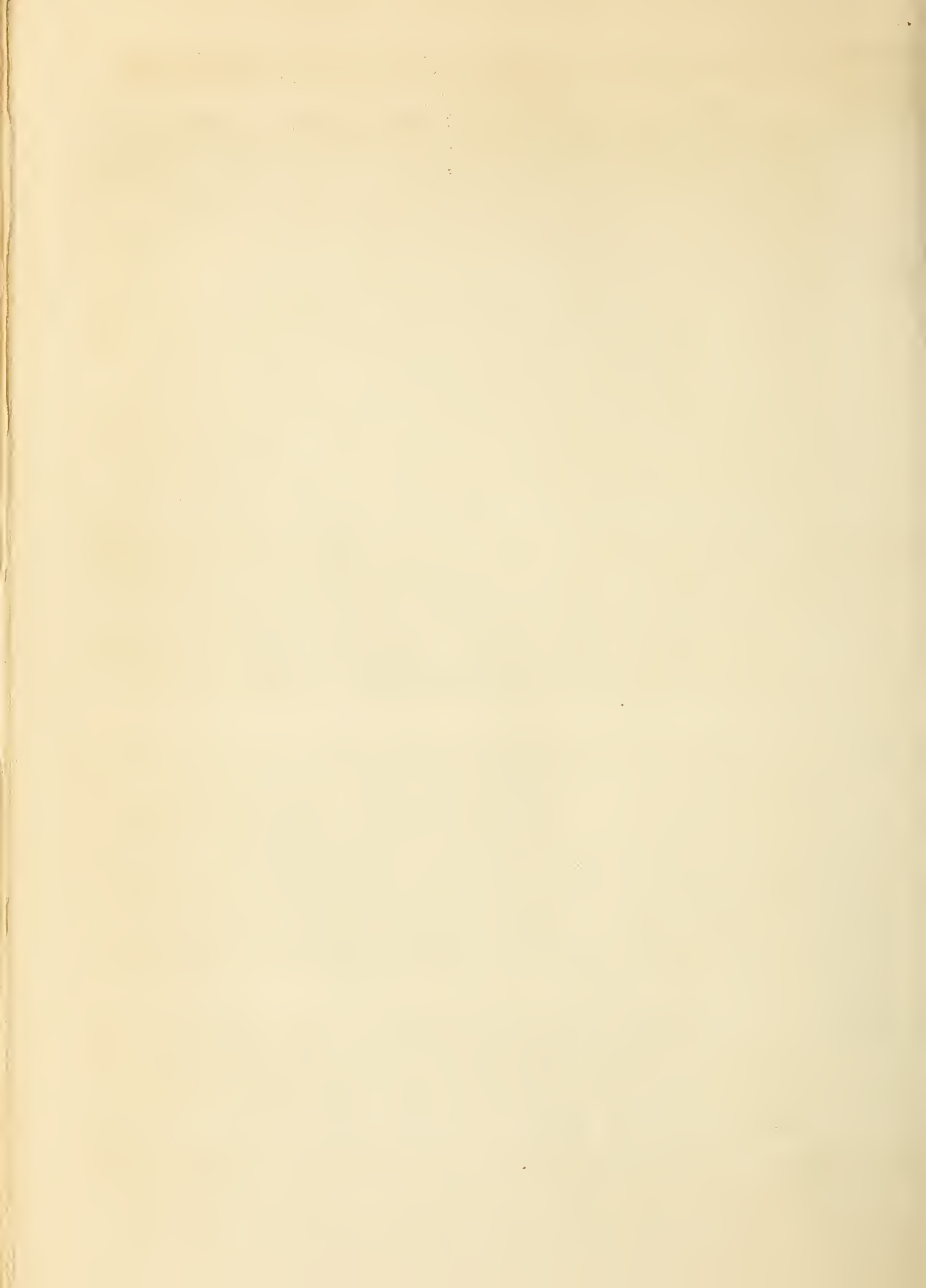
HALF HOLIDAY BILL The Shipstead bill to grant a Saturday half-holiday the year round to employees of the Government Printing Office was favorably reported to the Senate yesterday by Senator Brookhart, a member of the Senate civil service committee. The Senate already has passed and sent to the House a bill to give a half-holiday to laborers and mechanics in the Government service. This bill, however, specifically excluded employees of the big print shop. The Shipstead bill now will go on the calendar and may be voted on in the near future. (Press, May 2.)

Section 2

Barnes on Grain Market Not less but increased public participation, or speculation in the Nation's grain future markets, will react to the benefit of the farmer in the same way as general participation has widened and buoyed up stock transactions in the United States in recent years, according to an article by Julius H. Barnes in Nation's Business for May. Mr. Barnes, war-time head of the United States Grain Corporation and former president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, predicts progressively higher prices for American grain in the next few years, due to better opportunities for sales in Europe and because of the rapidly developing "quality market" at home. Explaining this "quality" demand, Mr. Barnes states that "the mills of South Carolina catering to the quality table which demands the peculiar flour made from soft, red winter wheat, find themselves able to pay \$1.90 a bushel at the mill door." On speculation in future markets, Mr. Barnes says: "We have possessed a uniquely American device for absorbing the impact of crop marketing from the farm at time of harvest without undue depression, and carrying it for distribution until consumption overtakes such grain accumulation. The line of price levels over a series of years shows relative stability between the crop-rush price and the ultimate distribution price. This has been effected through the device of free and open trading for future delivery on grain exchanges, a device possessed by no other country in the world. No other country shows the stability of price between the periods of excessive supplies and the later overtaking consumption....A high level grain price once established under such investment confidence would tend to maintain itself under the influence of this new 'quality market' of America's newly developed buying power. It would require adverse influence of unusual force to disturb this price level, once established behind the security of its people's table taste."

Business Conditions General business conditions at the opening of May, although still moving forward toward betterment, continues to be somewhat halting and marked by irregularity, according to the National City Bank of New York review. The steel, automobile and building industries have continued to make the best showing, but thus far, it is declared, business does not show a very pronounced tendency, the volume of freight moving on the railways still falling far below the corresponding weeks of last year. "Among constructive developments of the month," says the review, "we give particular weight to the recent strong advances in prices of agricultural products to levels well above those of a year ago. Another favorable factor is the continued abundance of funds for commercial purposes."

Cow Testing Associations An editorial in The Iowa Homestead for April 26 says: "A short time ago we received a letter from a farmer in Muscatine County, in which he told us that we had gotten off on the wrong foot in advocating the organization of more cow testing associations in Iowa. 'These cow testers are nothing but leeches on the farmers,' he declared. 'They ought to be made to work on the farm like the rest of us and not be going about testing and weighing milk and earning a living off the farmers without giving anything of value in return.' We wonder if this man knows that farmers are not compelled to join cow testing associations. Those who join and agree to help pay the tester for the time he spends in weighing and testing the milk of each cow in the member



herds; do so because they consider it a good business proposition. The reason why so many associations have been organized in the last few years is because more farmers have become convinced that it is worth while to know what each cow is doing, how much feed she is consuming in doing the job and just what she contributes to the total profits or losses of the farm. If our correspondent would join an association he would soon learn something about their value and would then be able to speak from experience when he criticizes the testers....We shall continue to do what we can to encourage farmers to join cow testing associations as fast as more can be organized and young men can be found to do the testing. It is a move in the right direction. An efficient tester will add more to the income of 26 farmers, the usual number each man serves, than would an advance of 10 cents a pound in the price of butterfat. Butterfat would have had to be sold at 27 cents a pound above the price it brought, for the herd mentioned above to have become as profitable from price advancement as it became from instituting a better method of feeding. Does cow testing pay? Would it not be well for those who belittle this work to give some real thought and hard study to production costs and feeding practices?"

Farm Acreage

An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for April 28 says: "The recent tendency toward larger farms in our better farming districts has been observed. Statistics also substantiate this. Good farmers take over the farms of their less successful neighbors, or perhaps rent the land of men who have retired. The object is to secure a larger acreage on which to produce crops and keep livestock. This is a profitable change. The majority of these farmers who secure additional land will farm the whole area without any extra help, horses, or machinery. This gives greater efficiency. Production cost per unit of product will be reduced, and profits increased to that extent. These economies are real. The cost of plowing an acre with six horses or with a good tractor is less than with two horses. A combine will harvest and thresh a field of grain for scarcely half what its cost to cut in the usual manner. Two and four row cultivators reduce the expense of intercultivation to a minimum. But this equipment demands large fields and enough acreage to keep it working for a reasonable number of days in the year. It is, therefore, this urge to reduce the expense of crop production that leads farmers to seek larger farms. The results in general farming areas would seem to point to the best size as ranging from two hundred to three hundred acres. The average size of Michigan farms could be doubled to advantage. But too large farms have disadvantages. Then management becomes more difficult; equipment has to be duplicated; the fields reach too far from the center of operations. There is evidence of satisfaction on farms well balanced as to size. A survey of 126 such farms having over two hundred acres showed but eight per cent of the sons leaving for other employment, as compared to forty-six per cent on farms of less than thirty acres. Where boys see profits and enjoy what these profits provide, they stick."

German Prices

A Berlin dispatch April 30 states that the index of wholesale prices in Germany as of April 18 was 139.6, as against 139 on April 11 and 137.9 two months ago.

The first of the year was a very dry one, and the crops were much injured. The weather was very hot, and the ground was very dry. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small. The weather was very hot, and the ground was very dry. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small. The weather was very hot, and the ground was very dry. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small.

The second of the year was a very wet one, and the crops were much injured. The weather was very cold, and the ground was very wet. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small. The weather was very cold, and the ground was very wet. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small. The weather was very cold, and the ground was very wet. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small.

The third of the year was a very dry one, and the crops were much injured. The weather was very hot, and the ground was very dry. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small. The weather was very hot, and the ground was very dry. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small. The weather was very hot, and the ground was very dry. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small.

New Zealand

The food habits of New Zealanders are more like those of Englishmen than like those of Americans, says the United States Bureau of Education, quoting Lillian B. Storms. "The per capita consumption of tea and meat far exceeds the consumption of those articles here," she says. "New Zealand is a meat-producing country and chilled meat is one of the principal exports. The per capita consumption is given in the Abstract of Statistics as 355 pounds per year, or nearly a pound a day. Allowing 20 to 25 per cent for waste, that figure would be 270 to 280 pounds net per year. The gross consumption in Australia is given as 193 pounds and in Canada it is only 161 pounds. In the World Almanac for 1928 gross consumption of meat in the United States is given as 142.8 pounds. Nutrition studies conducted through the co-operation of the home economics teachers in the schools of the Dominion last year show that meat is eaten 11.2 times per week in the average family, or nearly twice a day. This means that many families regularly have meat three times a day...."

Timber Conservation

The United States had an estimated lumber supply of 1,349,000,000,000 cubic feet on Jan. 1, 1927, of which all but 257,000,000,000 feet are in the Rocky Mountain and Pacific Coast States. These figures, compiled by Major David T. Mason, a lumber expert of Portland, Ore., were submitted to Everett G. Griggs, president of the St. Paul and Tacoma Lumber Company, in an address at the Western Division meeting of the United States Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Griggs quoted Major Mason further as follows: "If net annual depletion continued at an average rate of 37,000,000,000 feet, and if our existing supply is correctly estimated at 1,349,000,000,000 feet, then in about thirty-seven years our softwood saw-timber will be completely exhausted. And this depletion will include not only the softwood now of saw-timber size, but also all that grows to that size in the next thirty-seven years...." Mr. Griggs said that the timber resources are still "so vast in volume that we do not appreciate the need of reforestation or control of production." He said that at a meeting in Chicago attended by 300 delegates representing lumbermen, timber owners, foresters, pulp and paper manufacturers and Government officials, it was disclosed that an ownership representing 21,000,000 acres is now practicing reforestation. The conference adopted a number of recommendations which included the following: "This conference is convinced that it is fundamental to national welfare to produce a continuously ample supply of wood upon the 470,000,000 acres of land that will be idle if not kept in forest. The business of growing timber on one-fourth of the Nation's land area is on a par with agriculture as the foundation of American economic and social structure...." (Press, Apr. 28.)

Wool Market

The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for April 28 says: "There is more business being done in the eastern seaboard markets, though occasionally at slight concessions in price. On the whole the market appears very healthy, however. In the West prices are fully maintained, with an advancing tendency on medium wools in the bright wool States. There is evidently a better demand in the goods market both for men's and women's wear lines. Government's award of over half million yards 16-ounce Melton cloth helpful. The foreign markets keep fairly steady. Bradford is a bit more active. Primary markets are generally inactive."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 1. Livestock quotations at Chicago on slaughter steers, good and choice, \$13.10-\$14.90; cows, good and choice, \$8.75-\$11.75; heifers, good and choice, \$12.50-\$14; vealers, good and choice, \$10.50-\$14.50; feeder and stocker steers, good and choice, \$11.50-\$12.75. Heavy weight hogs, medium, good and choice, \$9.40-\$10.15; light lights, medium to choice, \$8.60-\$10.25; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice, \$8-\$9.25. Slaughter lambs, good and choice, \$16.25-\$17.15.

Closing price of 92 score butter at New York was $44\frac{1}{2}\phi$.

Closing prices of No.1 American cheese at New York were:

Flats, 22- $22\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Single Daisies 23- $23\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Young Americas $25\frac{1}{2}$ - 26ϕ .

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes \$6.25-\$7.50 per double-head barrel in city markets; \$5.50 f.o.b. Hastings. Maine sacked Green Mountains closed at \$2.35-\$2.85 per 100 pounds in the East; bulk stock \$1.60-\$1.70 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.80-\$1.95 carlot sales in Chicago; mostly \$1.65 f.o.b. Waupaca. Texas yellow Bermuda onions \$2-\$2.50 per standard crate in consuming centers; \$1.35-\$1.65 f.o.b. Laredo. Louisiana Klondike strawberries \$4.25-\$4.50 per 24-pint crate in city markets; auction sales \$3.40-\$3.80 f.o.b. Hammond. South Carolina pointed type cabbage \$2-\$3.25 per $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushel hamper in eastern cities. New York Baldwin apples \$8-\$9 per barrel in terminal markets; mostly around \$8 f.o.b. Rochester. Illinois Ben Davis \$7-\$7.50 in Chicago.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 14 points to 21.23¢ per lb. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 18 points to 21.80¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they advanced 11 points to 21.46¢.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring wheat at Minneapolis \$1.88 $7/8$ -\$1.96 $7/8$. No.2 red winter, Chicago \$2.19; Kansas City \$2.02-\$2.09. No.2 hard winter, Chicago \$1.72; Kansas City \$1.62-\$1.64 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.3 mixed corn, Chicago \$1.10-\$1.11; Minneapolis \$1.03-\$1.05; Kansas City \$1.03-\$1.04. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago \$1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.13 $\frac{1}{2}$; Minneapolis \$1.08-\$1.10; Kansas City \$1.08-\$1.09. No.3 white oats, Chicago 65 $\frac{1}{2}$ -71 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$; Minneapolis 60 $1/8$ -61 $5/8\phi$; Kansas City 67 $\frac{1}{2}$ -68 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXIX, No. 28

Section 1

May 3, 1928.

EQUALIZATION FEE DEFEATED

By a vote of 141 to 120, the House, in committee of the whole, voted yesterday to substitute the Aswell bill for the second section of the present McNary-Haugen bill. The effect of this move is to eliminate the equalization fee from the measure. The Aswell bill is identical with the McNary-Haugen bill, differing only in its failure to carry the equalization fee. (Press, May 3.)

FLOOD RELIEF LEGISLATION

The press to-day says: "Managers for the House and Senate reached an agreement yesterday on a form of Mississippi River flood control legislation which some of them, at least, believe will win the approval of President Coolidge. While announcement as to details of the agreement were withheld pending a further meeting to-day to draft the report to the House and Senate, it was learned that the conferees acceded to the President's request on one major proposition, but left in the bill, though in amended form, another provision to which he objected. The proposition on which they agreed with the President was that in carrying out the work heretofore authorized, local levee districts or the States will be required to pay one-third of the cost of constructing the levees on the main stem of the Mississippi River from Rock Island, Ill., to Cape Girardeau, Mo. "

FEDERAL SALARY BILL

The House civil service committee will meet this morning to amend the Welch bill providing increased salaries for Government employees; the bill will be reported back to the House before the week is over, and will be voted on and passed Monday. (Press, May 3)

THE PUBLIC DEBT

A reduction of more than a billion dollars in the gross public debt was shown by the Treasury Department yesterday in figures for ten months of the current fiscal year, according to the press to-day. The total debt on May 1 was \$17,847,691,931, as compared with \$18,941,170,648 one year ago, a cut of \$1,093,478,717. It is now estimated that the total will be reduced to well below \$17,500,000,000 by the end of the fiscal year.

GREAT LAKES CHANNELS

Modification of the existing project for connecting channels in the Great Lakes was recommended to Congress April 30 in a report on a preliminary examination and survey of the lakes by Major Gen. Jadwin, Chief of Army Engineers, which was forwarded to Congress by Secretary of War Davis. The estimated cost to the Government of the work was placed at \$24,000,000, with \$165,000 annually for maintenance, or \$35,000 greater than required by the present project. (Press, May 1.)

[The text in this section is extremely faint and illegible. It appears to be a multi-paragraph document, possibly a letter or a report, but the specific content cannot be discerned.]

Section 2

Chemical
Society
Research

The American Chemical Society is raising funds for the expansion and maintenance of a cooperative service in recording and indexing through its publications, the chemical literature of the world, according to a statement issued by the Board of Directors of the society. The society seeks to obtain \$50,000 a year for five years from the chemical industry, to be spent as it comes in, for the expansion and betterment of the existing service. In addition, it has arranged plans to underwrite a fund of \$2,000,000, the income of which would be used to place this expansion on a permanent basis. The society has already received \$360,000 for the two enterprises. The Chemical Foundation, Inc., has given \$250,000 and the industry has contributed \$110,000. (Press, Apr. 29.)

Cotton Util-
ization

An editorial in Farmstead, Stock & Home for May 1 says: "After long and thorough tests the Government has discovered a paper made from one-quarter cotton and three-quarters linen will give longer service than the all line paper it is now using for its paper money. The use of this cotton-linen paper, together with making the bills smaller, will save nearly \$2,000,000 a year in the cost of paper money. While it will not increase the use of cotton enough to be a price factor, still it is a good move. There is no fiber flax for making linen produced in this country, so that all the material used in our money up to this time has been imported. Cutting down the amount even 25 per cent, substituting a home product and getting a better paper is sound practice. There is always the chance that further research and experiment may make it possible to use a larger amount of cotton...."

Florida's
Bulb In-
dustry

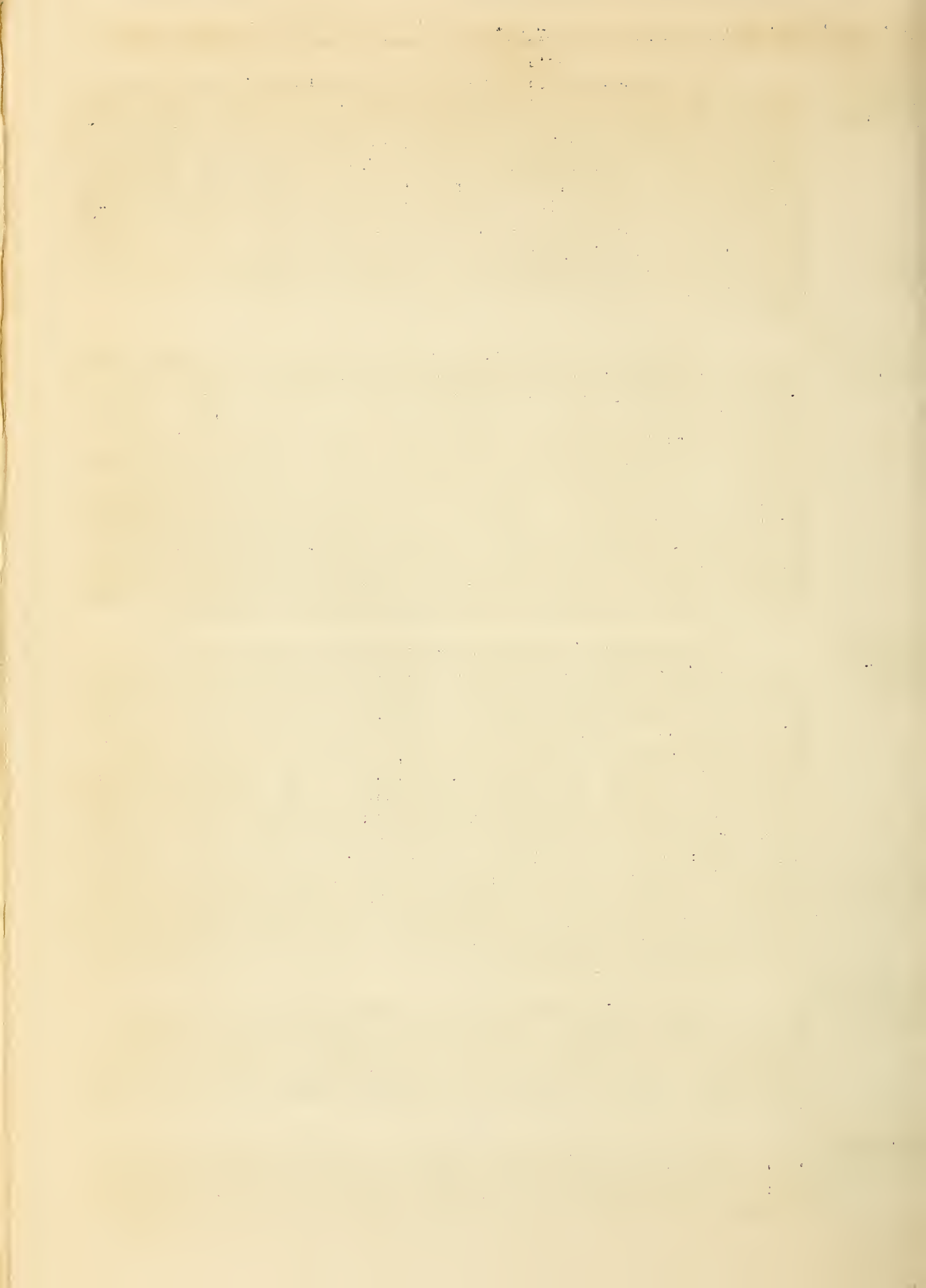
An editorial in Florida Times-Union for April 30 says: "... Among Florida's newer agricultural industries bulb growing is becoming quite prominent. It has been found that Florida is admirably adapted, as to soil, climate and nearness of markets, for this line of agricultural industry.... Within a recent period Florida authorities have issued certificates to seventy bulb growers, which is a larger number than issued in like time in any other State. These certificates attest that bulbs or plants are free from infestation. As indicating the extent to which this bulb industry has grown in Florida, it may be cited that one grower in Duval County produced eleven million bulbs last year. Ninety bulb growers in the State are reported to have produced fifty million bulbs last year, indicating a large volume of business in development. Duval, Volusia, Seminole and Lake Counties have considerable acreage in bulb plantings, with more acres being added right along, and with plantings being made in localities in which the bulb industry has only recently been introduced...."

Florida Straw-
berries

Florida Times-Union for May 1 reports that up to a few days ago the figures reported in the Plant City Courier were of shipments reaching 3,150,180 quarts of berries, for which the growers received \$997,885.04. Practically a million dollars--handed over as the crates were checked in and the baskets of fruit were stowed for a trip to the North, East or West.

Livestock
and Meat

A review of the livestock and meat situation during the month just closed, issued May 2 by the Institute of American Meat Packers, states: "A strong demand for fresh pork featured the meat trade during the month just closed. Prices of fresh pork loins declined somewhat



near the close of the month after increasing during the first three weeks as a result of the abrupt decrease in hog receipts. Receipts of hogs at the principal markets during the month were appreciably below receipts during March, and hog prices advanced sharply. The demand for beef continued unsatisfactory until the latter part of the month when it improved somewhat. The trade in smoked meats continued fairly good. Wholesale prices increased slightly but remained considerably below the levels which prevailed a year ago. In fact, the general price level of smoked products continues at relatively low levels. The export trade was quiet and generally unsatisfactory. Hog prices increased steadily during the month. The average price increased \$1 per hundred pounds during the third week of the month alone and showed an increase of \$2 in a period of three weeks. The dressed lamb market showed some improvement over the previous month, but not enough to keep pace with the steadily advancing live market and higher dressed costs."

Nebraska Wheat Pool An Omaha dispatch to the press of April 29 says: "The effort to organize a wheat pool in the United States which eventually will approximate, if not equal in importance, the Canadian pool, is getting under way. The movement has been agitated for some time but thus far has met with only indifferent success in the western wheat-growing States. Now interest among the leaders is reviving and what looks like an intensive drive to sign up acreage is beginning. It is the aim of the pool managers to sign up 50 per cent of the wheat acreage in each of the States organized for a period of five years. By the end of that time it is hoped that the value of pool marketing can be so well demonstrated that the farmers who have signed will be willing to continue their contracts indefinitely. The first big salvo in the attempt to organize Nebraska was fired at a State-wide meeting at Lincoln this week, at which were present representatives of local farmer and co-operative elevators as well as a number of wheat growers. There were speakers from Canada, Kansas, Colorado, Texas and Indiana, all representing associations of wheat growers and all enthusiasts for a united pool to be formed by the amalgamation of several State pools. This meeting, it was announced, is to be followed by direct organization work in every principal wheat-growing county of the State...."

Northwest Conditions A Minneapolis dispatch April 29 states that farm income in the Northwest during the last few weeks from important products has been about 27 per cent greater than during the same period last year. The increase is caused by "great gains in the marketings of small grains," according to the Reserve Bank. As a result the volume of business in the district has been larger than last year. Farm income from wool in Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Montana totals about \$12,000,000 yearly. The report says: "Country banks are drawing down their balances with city correspondent banks and increasing their borrowings with the Federal Reserve Bank, giving evidence of the growth of loans in agricultural regions and withdrawal of deposits."

Prince Edward Island Eggs A report of the value of cooperative egg marketing societies comes from Prince Edward Island, Canada. There they evidently call these organizations of poultrymen 'Egg Circles,' though the full name of the parent society is given as the Prince Edward Island Cooperative Egg and Poultry Association. This little island forms the smallest of the Canadian provinces. Because of its sheltered position and surrounding waters, Prince Edward Island enjoys a milder climate than the

adjoining mainland. Agriculture is practically the sole industry of great importance upon its level and fertile soil and it has long been noted for its large production of eggs. The report says that 1,194,680 dozen eggs were handled by the P.E.I. Egg Circle in 1927, an increase of 65,239 dozen over the previous year. The average production of eggs per member also increased from 305 to 327 dozen. The average price per dozen received by the members in 1927 was 30.26 cents, an increase of one and one-half cents per dozen over the price of the preceding year. Each producer's eggs are held and sold separately, their quality governing the price received. One member obtained a premium of 8.33 cents last year over the average price above mentioned, this netting him \$132.26 for his year's product above that which he would have received had his eggs been of only average quality.

Small Towns

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for April 27 says: "Good roads and the automobile are making a new problem for a good many country towns. The farmers in their old trade areas are in many cases driving to bigger places some distance away to do a good part of their business. The smaller town has suffered and seems likely to suffer more. Naturally, small town business men are considerably worked up over the situation. Once in a while we hear of towns that are going to considerable trouble to find out just these things. One New York town, for instance, made a survey of its territory and got frank statements from farmers as to what they would like to have at their trading town, and how in their opinion this particular town failed to meet this standard. We recommend a program of this sort to the small towns in the Corn Belt that are worrying about holding their farm trade....The survey method, pursued in entire disregard of the personal feelings of the local merchants, is the best way of starting out on a policy of this sort...."

Sugar Production

An editorial in Facts About Sugar for April 28 says: "No other industry basically agricultural has progressed so far from primitive beginnings in the same span of years as has the production of sugar. This development may be ascribed to a number of causes rather than to any single factor. Since it combined manufacturing processes with agricultural activities, the sugar industry early enlisted the aid of men of scientific training. Mechanical invention, chemical research, agricultural experimentation, all have combined to contribute to its progress by improving the quality of the plants from which the product is derived, originating new equipment for its more complete recovery and devising new methods for eliminating waste to an ever greater degree, thereby steadily increasing the efficiency of the industry and cheapening its costs of production....Perhaps the strongest factor in the progressive development of the sugar industry is its admirable adaptation to organized effort and systematic control....While the tendency to combination, consolidation and increased capacity has displayed itself more conspicuously on the manufacturing side of the industry, the same trend is evident in its agricultural operations. In the growing of cane, for example, two general methods are in vogue in different parts of the world. Under one of these the cane is produced on land owned or leased by individual growers, who usually cultivate relatively small tracts. Under the other system cultivation is carried on by the milling companies themselves, working large areas and handling every step in the process of production from the preparation of the fields to the sale of the finished product. As to the relative efficiency of the two

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systems it is sufficient to point out that the two countries that are the leading exemplars of the latter method are Java and Hawaii, and that these are the two in which yields of sugar per acre are far above those obtained elsewhere....In view of the close competition that prevails in the sugar industry and the struggle for international markets that is continually going on, it becomes a question whether it will not be necessary for all countries that desire to hold their position in this competition to adopt the system of unified control of field as well as factory operations...."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 2. Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring (13% protein) Minneapolis \$1.85 to \$1.93. No.2 red winter Chicago \$2.16; Kansas City \$1.96 to \$2.05. No.2 hard winter (12½% protein) Kansas City \$1.71½ to \$1.78½. No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis) Chicago \$1.69; Kansas City \$1.56 to \$1.59½. No.3 mixed corn Chicago \$1.07½; Minneapolis \$1 to \$1.02; Kansas City 98½¢ to \$1.00½. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.09 to \$1.10¼; Minneapolis \$1.05 to \$1.07; Kansas City \$1.04 to \$1.05. No.3 white oats Chicago 63½ to 68¾¢; Minneapolis 60¼ to 61¾¢; Kansas City 67 to 68¢.

Livestock prices quoted: Steers, good and choice, \$12.75 to \$14.60; cows, good and choice, \$8.75 to \$11.75; heifers, good and choice, \$12.25 to \$14; vealers, good and choice, \$11 to \$14.50; feeder and stocker cattle steers, good and choice, \$11.50 to \$12.75; hogs, heavy weight, medium, good and choice, \$9.25 to \$9.95; light lights, medium to choice, \$8.25 to \$9.75; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice, (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations) \$7.50 to \$9; lambs, good and choice, \$15.75 to \$16.85.

New York Baldwin apples ranged \$8-\$9 per barrel in terminal markets; 1 car \$8.15 f.o.b. Rochester. Illinois Ben Davis \$7-\$7.50 in Chicago. Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes closed at \$5-\$7 per double-head barrel in city markets. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$2.25-\$2.65 per 100 pounds in eastern cities. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.75-\$1.85 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.60-\$1.70 f.o.b. Waupaca. Texas yellow Bermuda onions \$1.75-\$2.50 per standard crate in consuming centers; mostly around \$1.50 f.o.b. Laredo. South Carolina pointed type cabbage \$2-\$3.15 per 1½ bushel hamper in the East. Texas Round type \$5.50 per barrel crate in Chicago. Louisiana Klondike strawberries 17-20¢ per pint in a few cities. North Carolina Klondikes 15¢-22½¢ per quart in Baltimore.

May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 31 points to 21.49¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they were down 33 points at 21.13¢. On the Chicago Board of Trade May futures declined 37 points to 21.23¢. The average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 32 points to 20.91¢. On the same day last season the price stood at 15.24¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 44½¢; 91 score, 44¼¢; 90 score, 44¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 22 to 22½¢; Single Daisies, 23 to 23½¢; Young Americas, 25½¢ to 26¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXIX, No. 29

Section 1

May 4, 1928.

FARM BILL PASSES HOUSE

The press to-day reports: "Embodying the equalization fee machinery objected to by President Coolidge, the McNary-Haugen farm relief bill was passed last night by the House. The vote was 204 to 121. The measure now must go back to the Senate for adjustment of differences with that body, which several weeks ago approved the bill by a vote of 53 to 23. As soon as these differences, none of which are of major proportions, are smoothed over the measure will be ready for inspection by President Coolidge. ..."

FEDERAL SALARY BILL

The press to-day says: "The Welch bill to raise the pay of Government employees now is ready to be passed....In a two-hour session yesterday, the House civil service committee so amended the Welch bill that it now is virtually the same as the Smoot bill. So far as salary schedules are concerned, the Welch bill as amended and reported yesterday is identical with the Smoot bill. Only in some phraseology is it different. Like the Smoot bill, it will add \$18,000,000 to the Government pay roll instead of \$16,000,000...."

THE TAX BILL

The press to-day reports: "Tax reduction must be confined within the \$212,700,000 surplus in sight for next year, Chairman Smoot, of the Senate finance committee, informed the Senate yesterday in opening debate on the \$200,000,000 bill drafted by the committee as a substitute for the \$290,000,000 House measure passed last December. Taking cognizance of the prospective demand of Senate Democrats for a \$325,000,000 reduction, Senator Smoot warned that any increase in the revenue-cutting provisions of the measure beyond the \$200,000,000 mark meant that much of a Treasury deficit...."

RESERVE BOARD CURB ASKED

The press to-day reports that Dr. Adolph C. Miller, a member of the Federal Reserve Board, recommended to the House banking and currency committee yesterday that a limitation be put on the authority of the board to engage in open market operations by requiring an affirmative vote of at least five members before it could do so. Doctor Miller was testifying on a bill to direct the board to use its power in the interest of stabilizing the purchasing power of the dollar. He took the position that the proposed legislation was not necessary, and possibly dangerous. Attention was directed to the market conditions of the last six months following the action of the board in July of lowering the rediscount rate and buying securities in the market, Doctor Miller giving this as an instance of what could be expected from such operations.

RADIO READJUSTMENTS

The "deadline" for readjustments throughout the country under the new radio law has been definitely set for September 1 by the Federal Radio Commission, according to Commissioner Caldwell. (Press, May 4.)

Section 2

Business
Waste

"American business is justly proud of itself," says Dr. Julius Klein in an article entitled "The Shameful Waste in Business," in Nation's Business for May. But American business, as he goes on to point out, ought to be "justly ashamed of itself." For a business which wastes \$8,000,000,000 in distributing its goods ought to be ashamed. And that, Doctor Klein thinks, is a moderate estimate of what we are doing. Waste in physical handling, waste in advertising, waste in buying, all three make up the total. The business man who will make money this year and next is the man who goes farthest in routing out wastes in distribution. He says in part: "Is the American business man one of the most wasteful in all the world of trade and commerce? For the year 1926 our total national income, according to the estimate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, was in excess of \$89,000,000,000. A little consideration shows that practically the whole of this national income must be expended for commodities and services. It is conservative to say that at least \$80,000,000,000 of the national income is spent in this manner. How much of it is spent for commodities and how much for service is guesswork, but a conservative guess would credit commodities with at least \$50,000,000,000 of the total. After much study of the question the committee on elimination of waste in industry of the Federated American Engineering Societies reached the conclusion that the waste in industry amounted to at least 50 per cent of the value of the output. While there has been no corresponding figure for wastes in distribution, this same committee declared in its book on 'Wastes in Industry' that 'extravagances of distribution are an outstanding shame to American business. They may equal or exceed the more patent industrial wastes of production.'"

Chilean Nitrate

An editorial in The American Fertilizer for April 28 says: "Recent commercial reports from Chile indicate an increasing prosperity in that country, one of the factors of which is found in the improved conditions in the nitrate industry. The synthetic nitrogen, which is being produced in constantly increasing quantities, will not drive the Chilean nitrate out of the market. As the price drops, enlarged markets will open, and much more agricultural nitrogen will be used throughout the world. In the face of the new competition, production methods in Chile are being modernized, and the cost of refining the crude nitrate will be substantially reduced within a few years. The export tax is still a heavy burden on the industry, but this is likely to be lessened as competition increases."

Commission's

The Federal Trade Commission has presented to the Senate its Report on report of an investigation made of cooperative marketing on which it Cooperative has been engaged since 1925. The studies presented, the report Marketing said, show that in some instances the economic benefits accruing to the producer are greater through cooperative marketing than through other types of distributors, and vice versa. These results, it added, might be used as argument both for and against the application of the cooperative principle as applied to the marketing of farm products. The report as a whole, however, the commission told the Senate, no doubt presents a true cross-section picture of the economic advantages of the cooperative marketing movement in its present state of development in this country as compared with other types of marketing farm products. The application of the cooperative principle to the

marketing of farm products is in its evolutionary period. Only time and experience, the commission concluded, will determine whether or not the application of the cooperative marketing principle in the marketing of commodities will bring larger returns to the producer than is secured through existing types of distributors. (Press, May 3.)

Corn Borer in Germany Tage U.H.Ellinger, Sc.D., in an article entitled "How Germany Solves Her Corn Borer Problem" in The New Breeder's Gazette for May, says: "Two methods are recommended by the German authorities, on the basis of last year's experimental work, as efficient means of eradicating the corn borer in the small corn region of the lower Rhine valley. One is to cut the corn stalks below the ground with a special apparatus and dispose of them as fodder or fuel. The other is to make the borers leave their protecting corn stalks and seek shelter in the tops of harvested potato plants, which may easily be burned, together with the borers. In 1927 the German Federal Biological Institute entered into cooperation with the International Corn Borer Investigations, initiated by the International Live Stock Exposition with the financial support of the business interests of Chicago. Significant results of the greatly enlarged research program are to be reported.... Up to the end of last century, the corn borer was known as a pest on hemp and hops, but has apparently, since that time, completely changed its habitat to corn....Doctor Zwolfer comments on the fact that the German corn plants suffer considerably more from corn borer attacks than do the Hungarian...."

Extension Work An editorial in Modern Farming for May 1 says: "...Trained men Profits and women are hard to replace. Technical education in schools and colleges merely places in the hands of the individual tools with which to work; years of intelligent application to the job is what really gives training and value. For this reason it is depressing to see so many of our agricultural extension workers leave the work for which they have fitted themselves, and enter other fields of activity. They can not be blamed. They must live, and when pay is too low or working conditions unbearable, they can not be blamed for trying something else. Still there is immeasurable loss to agriculture through their disaffection. More general understanding and recognition upon the part of the public of the work which agricultural extension workers are doing is the cure. When the value to the State or to the county, of agricultural demonstration work is fully appreciated by the non-farming industrial groups, public opinion will see to it that the men and women trained to render this service to the farmer and his family are not lost to them. For trained help for the farmer means more profit, the creation of more wealth; and this will mean general betterment of the community as a whole."

Fisher on Prices A New Haven dispatch April 30 reports that Prof. Irving Fisher's index number of commodity prices, based on 100 as the average of 1926, is 99.7 for the past week, comparing with 99.4 the week before, 98.9 two weeks before, 97.6 three weeks before and 98.1 four weeks before. This week's average is the highest for the year to date. The lowest was 95.1 in the second week of January.

Crump's index number of British commodity prices, as cabled for the past week and also based on 100 as the average for 1926, is 95.4, which compares with 95.6 a week ago, 94.7 two weeks ago, 94.9 three weeks ago and 94.4 four weeks ago. The average of a week ago was the highest for 1928 to date. The lowest was 92.8 in the second

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week of February. The index number of average Italian prices, compiled and cabled by the Chamber of Commerce at Milan, and based on 100 as the average of 1926, is 75.3. This compares with 75.1 the preceding week, 75.2 two weeks before, 75.3 three weeks before and 75.1 four weeks before. This week's average, which was also reached three weeks ago, is the highest for the year to date. The lowest was 74 in the first week of January.

Nitrogen Prices Representatives of fifteen countries attended the Second International Nitrogen Conference, held aboard the S.S. Luetzow in the Adriatic Sea, according to word received by radio at New York May 2. Speakers, among whom were Dr. J. Bueb of Germany, Sir David Milne Watson, England, president of the conference, Sir Alfred Mond, London and F.C.O. Speyer, England, stressed the importance of nitrogen and the relations of nitrogen prices to prices for farm products. The report says: "Doctor Bueb referred to the satisfactory results obtained in agriculture by the use of the new fertilizer, nitrate of lime and nitrophoska, which the German synthetic nitrogen industry had introduced. The demand for nitrophoska had at times been greater than the available supply. He then showed the effect of the relation between nitrogen prices and prices for agricultural produce on the demand for nitrogen. The downward trend of the former and the upward tendency of the latter since 1913-14 had greatly increased the margin of profit to be derived by using nitrogen. World consumption had hitherto kept pace with world production of nitrogen...."

Publicity and Consumption An editorial in The Stockman and Farmer for April 28 says: "'Spinach advances,' says a produce market report. This humble plant is a shining example of the powers of publicity. Real addicts of spinach are rare. Most users of the herb take it under suggestion and even under protest, yet so firmly has the idea taken hold that one hotel which has looked up its buying records finds that the per patron consumption of spinach in its dining room is twenty times what it was ten years ago. This may encourage sheepmen who are interested in 'eat more lamb' propaganda, for few of them will admit that they have less to start with from the standpoint of palatability than had the spinach adherents."

Wool Institute Meeting Announcement has been made by President Whiteside, of the Wool Institute, Inc., that the date on which it was originally intended to hold the first annual meeting of the institute has been changed from May 15 to May 23. (Press, May 2.)

Wool Marketing in Britain The Field (London) for April 12 says: "At the annual meeting of the Scottish Wool Growers, Ltd., in Edinburgh, it was reported that most encouraging success had attended the first year's working of this cooperative wool marketing scheme in Scotland. It was stated that the farmer members are well satisfied with the price they have received for the 1927 clip, and that the buyers are also pleased to be able to buy graded wool in the quantities they require. The past year has been remarkable for the steady demand for wool, and perhaps it has been abnormally plain sailing for such a cooperative enterprise; but it is a fact that similar schemes have proved their worth in England in other years. Combination in marketing is a useful line for farmers to follow wherever there is the opportunity of securing better prices by grading and bulking supplies. Certainly it has paid in the case of wool."

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Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 3. Livestock quotations at Chicago on slaughter steers; good and choice, \$12.75-\$14.50; cows, good and choice, \$8.50-\$11.75; heifers, good and choice, \$12.25-\$14; vealers, good and choice, \$11.50-\$15; feeder and stocker steers, good and choice, \$11.50-\$12.75; heavy weight hogs, medium, good and choice, \$9.20-\$9.80; light lights, medium to choice, \$7.75-\$9.60; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice, \$7-\$8.75. Slaughter lambs, good and choice, \$15.25-\$16.50.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes \$5.50-\$7 per double-head barrel in city markets; \$4.50 f.o.b. Hastings. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$2.25-\$2.85 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.35-\$1.40 f.o.b. bulk stock Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.75-\$1.80 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.60-\$1.65 f.o.b. Waupaca. Texas yellow Bermuda onions \$1.75-\$2.65 per standard crate in consuming centers; mostly \$1.35-\$1.40 f.o.b. Laredo. New York Baldwin apples \$8-\$9 per barrel in city markets; cold storage stock \$8 f.o.b. Rochester. Illinois Ben Davis \$7-\$7.50 per barrel in Chicago. Louisiana Klondike strawberries \$4-\$4.50 per 24-pint crate in distributing centers; auction sales \$3.35-\$3.70 f.o.b. Hammond.

Closing price of 92 score butter at New York was 44 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Closing prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats 22-22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies 23-23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ -26¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 72 points to 20.29¢. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 66 points to 20.83¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they were down 59 points to 20.54¢.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring wheat at Minneapolis \$1.81 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.87 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.2 red winter, Chicago \$2.09. No.2 hard winter, Chicago \$1.67-\$1.68 $\frac{3}{4}$; Kansas City \$1.55-\$1.58. No.3 mixed corn, Chicago \$1.06 $\frac{1}{4}$ -\$1.07 $\frac{1}{2}$; Minneapolis 99 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-\$1.01 $\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City \$1-\$1.01 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago \$1.08 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.09 $\frac{1}{2}$; Minneapolis \$1.04 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.06 $\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City \$1.05-\$1.07. No.3 white oats, Chicago 64¢-69¢; Minneapolis 60 $\frac{1}{4}$ -61 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 66 $\frac{1}{2}$ -67 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXIX, No. 30

Section 1

May 5, 1928.

THE PRESIDENT ON BILLS The press to-day says: "President Coolidge indicated strongly yesterday his continued opposition to the farm relief and flood control bills. He apparently has modified his opposition to the shipping bill and is expected to approve the measure pending in the House...As to Boulder Dam, another controversial subject which will be considered by Congress before adjournment early in June, the President expressed a hope for favorable action. He has recommended in many messages that the dam should be constructed as a flood control project, as well as to furnish Southern California with a better domestic water supply. The bill provides for the creation of power, but the President believes most of it will be used to pump the water over the mountains to California and that very little will be created for sale in competition with private concerns...."

THE FARM BILL The House yesterday agreed to a conference with the Senate to smooth out disputed provisions of the McNary-Haugen farm relief bill which it passed May 3. The House conferees named were, as chairman, Haugen of the House agricultural committee, Representative Purnell, republican, of Indiana, and Representative Aswell of Louisiana, ranking Democrat on the committee. The Senate earlier had requested the conference and had designated its conferees. The Senate conferees are McNary, Oregon; Capper, Kansas, and Gooding, Idaho, Republicans, and Smith, South Carolina, and Ransdell, Louisiana, Democrats. (A.P., May 5.)

SHIPPING BILL The press to-day reports that the Jones-White bill, designed to develop a privately-owned merchant fleet, was taken up yesterday by the House with the expectation of reaching a final vote before adjournment to-day. The measure was framed by the merchant marine committee and submitted as a substitute for the Jones bill which was approved several weeks ago by the Senate. While the Senate measure provided a continuation of Government shipping operation for the present, the House committee bill proposes a more rapid development of private ownership. Under the terms of the latter, a fund of \$250,000,000 would be established from which loans would be made up to three-fourths of the construction cost of a vessel on a twenty-year payment basis. Mail contracts would be made more attractive and merchant marine naval reserve pay would be doubled.

NUTRITION AS SCIENCE EXHIBIT A Berlin dispatch to-day reports that nutrition as a science is the keynote of an immense exhibition to be opened at Berlin to-day by the fair department of the City of Berlin and the German Hygienic Museum of Dresden. The show not only is the first of its kind in Germany but probably the largest ever attempted anywhere. Past and present methods of eating are contrasted by impressive exhibits, and much care is devoted to the demonstration of proper feeding of children and patients of various kinds, etc. One of the most interesting sections is the department containing anatomical preparations, showing diseases caused by malnutrition and defective functioning of the digestive organs... "

Section 2

British Cotton Spinners A London dispatch May 4 reports that another combination of cotton spinning mills in the section of the Lancashire industry using American cotton is in the course of formation, with the object of preserving all existing interests by means of cooperation of all parties on an equitable basis.

Farm Contests An editorial in Modern Farming for May 1 says: "A few farmers still doubt the practical value of the various contests which are giving us knowledge of the possibilities of our land. Some years back before adequate plans had been worked out the average cotton, corn, or livestock contest was indeed a tricky affair. Huge yields and enormous returns were often secured; often these were made at an expense which absorbed all the profit and large sums besides. This condition does not obtain to-day. The ton litter contest, the five-acre cotton contest, and other competitions sponsored by the county agricultural extension agents are carried through upon strictly business lines, and net profit is the criterion of excellence as in every practical farming operation it should be. But even when cost is not figured there is some benefit in a project which shows us the possibilities of our land, our livestock, our fertilizers, and cultural methods. The man who makes two or three bales of cotton to the acre has performed in a way which opens our eyes, and intrigues our interest. We sneer at his fancy farming and all real farmers should figure closely and dispassionately on the cost; still, profit or not, he has disclosed new possibilities and his discovery can be adapted to our practical program. However, such contests as those we mention are far more practical than the season-by-season projects which we carry on merely as a means of making a living. And added to their inspiration they carry a sound lesson in farm cost accounting."

Florida Citrus Shipments Statements coming out of Tallahassee regarding the citrus fruit industry in Florida show that shipments have doubled in each of the last two ten-year periods, and that the shipments for the season 1926-1927 were more than ten times greater than the total amount sent out in the winter and spring 1886-1887, four decades ago. The figures have been prepared by Russell W. Bennett, for the State industrial survey, and in submitting the report Mr. Bennett indicated his source of information as from the records of the Standard Container Manufacturing Company, and other sources. The report, published in Florida Times Union for May 1, says: "Details of the season of 1926-1927 show that 15,558,800 boxes of citrus fruits were sent out from Florida. In that season 14,211,000 boxes and packages of vegetables were shipped. The shipments of citrus fruit in the season of 1886-1887 amounted to something more than a million and a quarter boxes, and there was steady increase up to the year of 'the big freeze,' in 1895. This cut down the shipments to less than a quarter of a million boxes, and the situation was very serious for a few years afterwards. Previous to 1895 the shipments had grown to over five million boxes, and Florida oranges and grapefruit were already being demanded in the markets of the country...."

Irish Economic Development The results of a three months study of economic conditions in the Irish Free State by Department of Commerce officials are published in the form of a handbook. The immediate development of the Irish Free State, the handbook indicates, will be along agricultural rather than industrial lines, with dairy farming probably its most important branch. "By far the greatest part of the Free State's exports consists of farm products, a fact which tends to limit our participation in this trade. Statistics for the past few years, however, show that such products as wool and woollens, bacon, oatmeal, pickled mackerel, line goods and woollen hosiery are being sold in steadily increasing quantities in this country. Irish blooded horses, which have an international reputation, constitute a unique item in the Free State's shipments to the United States. The Irish farmer in his everyday life is constantly in touch with the products of the United States. The bread that he eats is made of American flour; he has American bacon on his table; he smokes American tobacco and wears American cotton in his clothes. And finally, to a steadily increasing degree, he is indulging himself in the convenience and pleasure of an American automobile, which he drives with American gasoline."

Montana's Reclaimed Land The problems confronting Federal and local authorities as well as the settlers on the Milk River, Sun River and Lower Yellowstone irrigation projects in Montana, due to the backward development and slow settlement of these lands, are pointed out in a statement by F.B.Linfield, president of the Montana Agricultural College, issued through the United States Reclamation Bureau. The conditions with which the people of Montana must deal, says Mr. Linfield, arise from the facts (1) that most of the engineering works have already been constructed at considerable expenditure of public funds; (2) that the projects are partly settled by people who have come with the promise of completed development and that there are certain obligations to assist them in making needed adjustments either by establishing themselves on a permanently prosperous basis or moving to more favorable locations, and (3) the land being partly settled, the ditches have to be maintained and cared for, but the limited use of water makes a very heavy overhead for these users. Since the Federal Government is already heavily involved in the reclamation projects, it is evident, according to Mr. Linfield, that there are two alternatives from which to choose in planning the future policy. The first would be to close the projects with subsequent loss of the money already invested. The second course would be to invest sufficient funds in addition to engineering enterprises to increase the area farmed and thus the gross yield, so that the maintenance cost per unit farmed may be reduced. (Press, May 4.)

New England Methods Printers' Ink for May 3 says: "The New England manufacturer is making determined efforts to win back the business and the prestige which, he feels, has been allowed to drift from New England to other sections of the country. Working through the New England Council and through other cooperative organizations he has accomplished much and is preparing the ground for a great deal of productive effort. The New England farmer also has been a sufferer from the trend of business away from New England. Anyone familiar with the rugged landscapes of the Northeastern States knows that farming in this section is a problem quite different from that enjoyed by the more fortunate farmers

of the Middle West. Yet during the last few years dairying, in particular, has undergone a renaissance in New England which is astonishing to outsiders unfamiliar with the situation. Another branch of farming which has undergone a rapid change is the old Vermont industry of producing maple sugar and maple syrup. Poultry farming has also shown an encouraging effort to capitalize on those familiar terms of the hotel menu, 'Vermont Turkey' and 'Rhode Island Duckling.' As the latest step in bringing back the profits to farming in New England, the farmers of that section in encouraging numbers are turning to the use of official State grades and standards and the 'New England Label' which may be employed under authorization of the State Commissioners of Agriculture. In every State except New Hampshire, where no legislation enabling the Commissioner of Agriculture to promulgate official State grades as contemplated in the 'New England Farm Marketing Program' has been passed, grades and standards have been under consideration and have been promulgated for a variety of products. Use of the standards and the label either has been or will be begun by large numbers of producers when the seasons for the various products arrive....In turning toward standardization and labeling, New England farmers are doing nothing unique, but are merely making use of an 'economic tool' that has been and is being used successfully elsewhere. Farmers in other sections are already grading and labeling, aided and stimulated by the United States Department of Agriculture, which is urging throughout the country the desirability of modern marketing and standardization of products. This grading and labeling is expected to result in definite advantages, for both producer and consumer..."

Rubber Inter- Representatives of the Dutch, Belgian and French rubber planta-
national tion interests met at Brussels, Belgium, April 24 and 25, for a gen-
Interests eral discussion of the rubber situation, according to a report from
Brussels, May 4. It is said that no decision was reached as to use
of policy, but opinions were expressed indicating a desire to find
means of cooperating with British producers, with whom Dutch producers
had the week previously held discussions in London. It is also under-
stood that the growers showed a desire to reach a solution not of-
fensive to American rubber companies. Another meeting will take place
in Holland in the near future.

Western O.A.Fitzgerald writes of "A New Era in Western Farming" in
Farming The Field for May. He says in part: "...To a certain degree the
West's advance in better agricultural methods is traced to enterprise,
personal initiative and foresightedness, but not entirely. Far re-
moved from the principal markets of the Nation, faced with the bugbear
of high transportation charges, the western farmer quickly found it
necessary to adopt more efficient farming methods or see his land
become more a liability each harvest. The sole chance to offset the
distance factor and high freight rates lay in improving the per unit
production, whether the unit was the acre of land, the dairy cow, the
hen, the sheep or what not, bringing a greater degree of diversifi-
cation into the farming scheme and thereby decreasing the cost of
production. For this reason the intensive farming regions of Colorado,
Utah, Idaho, Washington and Oregon are among the most diversified in
the country. How well the West has mastered this handicap of dis-
tance might be indicated by the Idaho potato, now found in markets
throughout the country...."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 4. Livestock quotations at Chicago on slaughter steers, good and choice, \$12.75-\$14.50; cows, good and choice, \$8.50-\$11.75; heifers, good and choice, \$12-\$14; vealers, good and choice, \$12-\$15; feeder and stocker steers, good and choice, \$11.50-\$12.75; heavy weight hogs, medium, good and choice, \$9.20-\$9.80; light lights, medium to choice, \$7.50-\$9.60; slaughter pigs, medium to choice, \$7.50-\$9.60; slaughter lambs, good and choice, \$15.25-\$16.75.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes \$4.50-\$6.25 per double-head barrel in eastern cities; mostly \$4 f.o.b. Hastings. Maine sacked Green Mountains closed at \$2.15-\$2.50 per 100 pounds in city markets; mostly \$1.35 f.o.b. bulk stock Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.70-\$1.85 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.55-\$1.60 f.o.b. Waupaca. South Carolina pointed type cabbage \$2-\$2.65 per $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushel hamper in the East. Alabama and Louisiana Round type \$4.50-\$6.50 per barrel crate in a few cities. New York Baldwin apples \$8-\$9 per barrel in terminal markets; \$8.25-\$8.50 f.o.b. Rochester. Eastern Ben Davis \$5-\$6.25. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions \$1.75-\$2.50 per standard crate in consuming centers; mostly around \$1.25 f.o.b. Laredo.

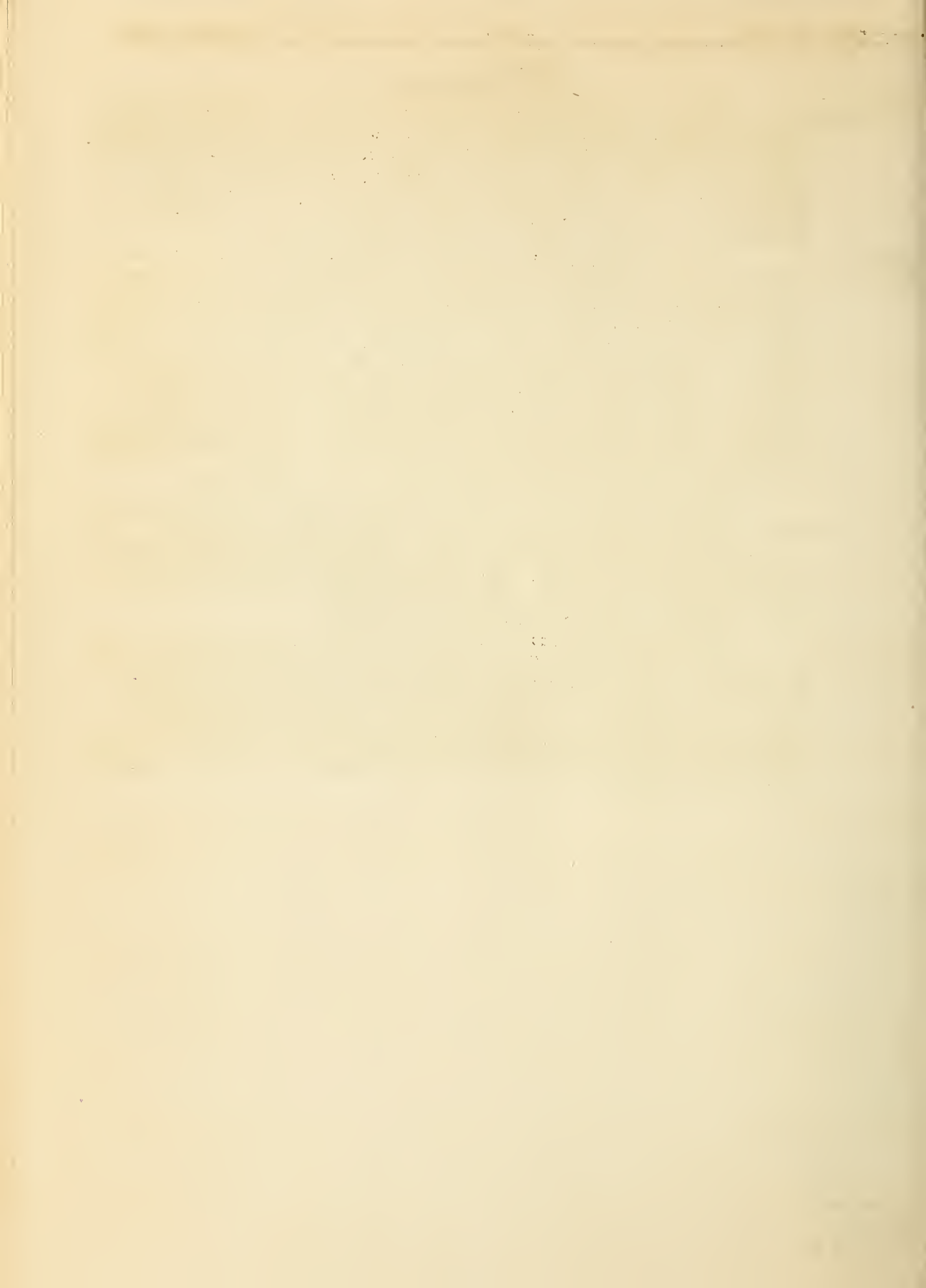
Closing price of 92 score butter at New York was $44\frac{1}{2}\phi$.

Closing prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats $22-22\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Single Daisies $23-23\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Young Americas $25\frac{1}{2}\phi-26\phi$.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 1 point to 20.28¢. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 1 point to 20.82¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they were up 2 points to 20.56¢.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring wheat at Minneapolis \$1.81-\$1.89. No.2 red winter, Chicago \$2.04; Kansas City \$1.95-\$2.03. No.2 hard winter, Chicago \$1.62; Kansas City \$1.54-\$1.57. No.3 mixed corn, Chicago $1.06\frac{1}{2}$; Minneapolis $99\frac{1}{2}\phi-1.01\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City $99\frac{1}{2}\phi-1.01$. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago $1.08-1.10\frac{1}{2}$; Minneapolis $1.04\frac{1}{2}-1.06\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City \$1.05-\$1.06. No.3 white oats Chicago $65\frac{3}{4}\phi-69\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Minneapolis $60\frac{1}{2}-62\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Kansas City 67-68¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXIX, No. 31

Section 1

May 7, 1928.

THE PRESIDENT AND FLOOD BILL The press of May 6 reports that President Coolidge has invited House and Senate conferees on the Mississippi River flood control bill to visit the White House to-day to discuss his differences with Congress over several provisions of the measure.

FEDERAL SALARY BILL The press of May 6 reports that the Smoot-Welch bill to raise the pay of 45,000 Government employees in Washington and 90,000 in the States is scheduled to be passed by the House to-day. It will then go to the Senate, which body is expected to approve it within two weeks. The bill will add \$18,000,000 to the Government pay roll.

ROAD LEGISLATION The press of May 6 reports that an amended Senate bill to authorize appropriations for the construction of roads through unappropriated or unreserved public lands, nontaxable Indian lands and Federal reservations, was passed May 5 by the House.

HOUSE PASSES SHIPPING BILL The press of May 6 reports that the Jones-White shipping bill, which provides various forms of aid for private tonnage and authorizes improvements and replacements in the Government-owned fleet, was passed by the House May 5 without the formality of a roll-call. The bill now goes to the Senate, and probably will be referred to a conference committee representing the two Houses early next week.

RURAL HEALTH BILL A bill to provide for the cooperation of the Federal Government with the States in promoting the health of the rural population of the country was introduced May 5 by Representative Bankhead of Alabama. (Press, May 6.)

DAIRY CONGRESS The press to-day reports that the 27 official delegates to the eighth International Dairy Congress, whose appointment has been announced by Secretary of State Kellogg, will meet in Washington tomorrow as guests of the American Dairy Federation. The delegates will organize and make plans for their work. The congress will convene in London June 26, and the American delegates will remain in session for seventeen days. The delegation will sail from New York June 16.

PICTURES BROADCAST In the presence of members of the Radio Commission and radio experts, C. Francis Jenkins, a local inventor, May 5 broadcast motion pictures from one part of his laboratory to another with receiving apparatus on which he has been working several years. While the receiver now shows pictures about six inches square, Mr. Jenkins believes that it will be feasible in a short time to have the device so arranged that the pictures can be shown on the wall. (Wash. Post, May 6.)

Section 2

Bankers
Provide
Scholar-
ships

One hundred sixty-seven collegiate loan scholarships will be provided by the American Bankers Association Educational Foundation, 98 of which are now being proffered to 71 selected colleges and universities in 34 States, it is announced by John H. Puelicher, president, Marshall & Ilsley Bank, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as chairman of the foundation's board of trustees. The foundation fund of \$500,000 was started in 1925 by the association to commemorate its fiftieth anniversary and aims to stimulate and aid worthy men or women students to pursue courses in banking and economics in collegiate institutions throughout the country. The scholarship awards will be available for the scholastic year beginning next fall. The present allotments provide that in the cases of the University of California, University of Illinois, Kansas State Agricultural College, Michigan Agricultural College, North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Engineering, Oregon State Agricultural College, Pennsylvania State College and the University of Wisconsin one of the scholarships awarded shall be in agricultural economics.

British
Cotton Mill
Crisis

A London dispatch May 5 says: "The disputes of two British Cotton Mill textile industries have taken a serious turn. The Master Spinners Federation is asking authority of firms in the federation to declare a lockout to enforce their demand for a reduction in wages, all negotiations to this end having failed. In the dyeing and finishing trades of Lancashire and Yorkshire, the operatives unions have resolved upon a strike in a month's time unless their demands for the adoption of a collective piecework system and a readjustment of wages of time workers are conceded. These two disputes affect hundreds of thousands of employees, both the American and the Egyptian sections of the cotton trade being affected."

Burley Growers
Associa-
tion

An editorial in The Farmer (St. Paul) for April 28 says: "During the five years when the Burley Tobacco Growers' Association was functioning successfully, this organization was generally considered the best example of commodity marketing to be found in the United States. When the five-year growers' contract expired, an attempt was made to secure a sign-up of 75 per cent of all the Burley growers. Failing in this, the association decided to return to the old system of auction markets. Considering the success of the organization during the years of its operation, the failure of the Burley growers to 'carry on' was the greatest disappointment....It is interesting and informative, however, to note the exact facts about the Burley association as taken from a recent report of General Manager Stone. In his report of the work of the association last year, Mr. Stone calls attention to the fact that final settlements have now been made on all six crops received and sold on the pool plan. A fair living price was received without violent fluctuations in the price level. The 1926 crop, sold at public auction by the association brought approximately eight cents per pound under the average realized for the five crops sold privately by the pooling method. In addition, the growers have acquired during the five years the ownership of some six million dollars worth of warehouse property, stock for which has been issued to growers. In the words of Mr. Stone 'the ownership of these warehouses is the best insurance policy growers will have in the future as a fair price guarantee.' In view of the above figures, can it be truthfully stated that the Burley Association was the failure

that the enemies of cooperative marketing would have us believe? If we interpret the facts correctly the only failure was the failure of the growers to continue to render full and complete support to the continuance of their own organization. The Burley growers pulled themselves away from the brink of bankruptcy in 1921, did a good job of marketing for five years and then forgot the lesson they had learned which fact cost them eight cents a pound last year. As has been so truly said 'cooperation rarely fails; it is the cooperator who fails.'"

Buying Combi-
nations

An editorial in The Farmer (St. Paul) for May 5 says: "The Twin City Milk Producers' Bulletin well suggests that 'one of the greatest arguments for cooperative marketing at the present time is that private concerns throughout the Nation are combining, thus increasing their bargaining power as buyers of farm products.' This thought was suggested by the fact that combinations of buyers are under way in all sections of the United States. The only way to deal effectively with combined buying power is to perfect combined selling organizations. In actuality a combination is merely a cooperative organization. The Twin City Milk Producers is giving thought to this question because of the formation of the National Dairy Products Corporation which has taken over the leading dairy plants in cities throughout the United States and combined them in one gigantic organization. As the bulletin suggests, 'how much chance does the individual farmer who acts alone have in dealing with organizations such as the National Dairy Products Corporation which can take a loss in any one of these cities for years and still pay dividends by making huge profits at other points?' The bulletin draws the wise conclusion that members of dairy cooperatives may well forget their petty troubles about tests, weights, the occasional loss of cans when they consider the fact the real reason for cooperative marketing on a large scale is to give farmers the benefit of collective bargaining. The trend toward huge combinations in the business world makes necessary the building of cooperatives on a scale big enough so that they can successfully meet the new conditions."

Cotton Goods
Export

The New York Times of May 3 states that a combination of leading cotton goods houses for the joint sale of their products in foreign markets is planned by Robert Reade of New York. Such organizations, the dispatch says, may be formed under the Webb-Pomerene act, and some that were so formed have achieved notable success in the marketing of American commodities abroad. Mr. Reade said that haphazard practices prevailed in the present world-distribution of American cottons, and an export association would make great improvements possible.

Dairy Consumption

An editorial in Dairy Produce for May 1 says: "There has been a remarkable increase in the consumption of milk brought about by the organized efforts to make known to humanity our latest knowledge of the necessity and value of milk as a food. But great as this increase of milk consumption has been, it could be much greater if the various interests in extending the dairy industry could look beyond their particular groups and at the industry as a whole--could have the broad industry view instead of the narrow group view....The idea of all contributions and efforts to increase

Future Trading "Last week Melvin L. Traylor, president of the First National Bank of Chicago, made a speech in which he said: 'Dealings in agricultural commodities is on a tremendous volume and on a narrow margin of profit. The business requires a large amount of credit in proportion to the amount of capital invested. Were it not for trade in futures and the hedging facilities which such trade permits this credit could not be secured and trade would revert to the old methods of buying only for immediate needs. Without future trade modern scale business in these commodities would be impossible, and farmers would be deprived of a ready market for their produce.' Probably ninety-nine out of every hundred readers who have got this far will think that Mr. Traylor was discussing future trading in grain, cotton or provisions, but he wasn't. He was talking about trading in butter and eggs on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. Producers would enjoy greater stability, or suffer less uncertainty, if it were possible for him to discuss in the same way their markets for livestock and other commodities not having the benefits of future trading." (Ohio Stockman and Farmer, May 5.)

Wool Market The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for May 5 says: "~~xxxxxxx~~
~~xxxxxxx~~" The movement of wool has been moder-
ate this week in the eastern seaboard markets. Prices have been
steady throughout the list, with the stronger tendency in medium
wools. In the West there has been scattering activity at fully recent
quotations. The piece goods market is still a conundrum, although it

appears that the buyers of goods are getting a bit more reconciled to the higher prices as inevitable in view of the cost of the raw material. Foreign markets generally are marking time and waiting for London Tuesday to reflect the world's need for wool. Bradford is steady and expects prices to be no more than par to 5 per cent below last London sales closing rates. "

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 5. Livestock quotations at Chicago on heavy weight hogs, medium, good and choice, \$9.25-\$9.85; light lights, medium to choice, \$7.50-\$9.60; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice, \$7-\$8.50.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes \$2.10-\$2.50 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; lower at mostly around \$1.25 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.70-\$1.80 carlot sales in Chicago; few sales \$1.55-\$1.60 f.o.b. Stevens Point, Waupaca. Florida Spaulding Rose, \$4.50-\$6.25 per double-head barrel in city markets; mostly \$4 f.o.b. Hastings. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions \$1.50-\$2.50 per standard crate in consuming centers; few sales \$1.10-\$1.30 f.o.b. Laredo. New York Baldwin apples \$8-\$9 per barrel in city markets; \$8.25-\$8.50 f.o.b. Rochester. South Carolina pointed type cabbage \$1.25-\$2.25 per 1½ bushel hamper in the East.

Closing price of 92 score butter at New York was 44½¢.

Closing prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats 22-22½¢; Single Daisies 23-23½¢; Young Americas 25½-26¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 1 point to 20.29¢ per lb. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 7 points to 20.89¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they declined 2 points to 20.54¢.

Grain prices quoted: No.2 red winter wheat at Chicago \$2.06½; Kansas City \$1.94-\$2.02. No.2 hard winter, Chicago \$1.65½; Kansas City \$1.60-\$1.62. No.3 mixed corn, Chicago \$1.07-\$1.08½; Kansas City \$1.01-\$1.02½. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago \$1.10¾-\$1.11½; Kansas City \$1.07-\$1.08. No.3 white oats at Kansas City 67-68¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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Vol. XXIX, No. 32

Section 1

May 8, 1928.

FEDERAL SALARY BILL

The Washington Post to-day reports: "The House passed the Smoot-Welch salary bill yesterday by a vote of 281 to 14. It now goes to the Senate, which body is expected to pass it within the next two weeks. The bill increases the pay of 135,000 Federal employees, 45,000 in this city and 90,000 in the States, and adds about \$18,000,-000 to the Federal pay roll. None of the fourteen who voted against the bill were opposed to the principle of better pay for Federal workers. They opposed the bill because they did not think it was liberal enough....Representative Lehlbach, who is chairman of the House civil service committee, which handled the bill, was the first to speak on it. He explained that it was merely a temporary measure, and that a complete survey was to be made of the Government service before permanent relief was recommended...."

FLOOD LEGISLATION

Mississippi River flood control legislation was made practically certain yesterday after a conference between President Coolidge and House and Senate conferees on the Jones bill. After spending more than an hour with the President the conferees amended the measure to meet the objections raised by the Chief Executive and submitted a new report to both Houses. The most important change in the bill was that relating to section 4, added by the House, which requires that the United States provide flowage rights for destructive flood waters passing by reason of diversions from the main channel of the Mississippi. This was amended so that the Federal Government would be liable for flowage rights only on those lands not heretofore subjected to floods. The objection of the President was that the House amendment as finally changed by the conferees might entail a cost of hundreds of millions of dollars to the Federal Government. (A.P., May 8.)

CORPORATION TAX LEGISLATION

The Senate voted yesterday against permitting the new corporation income tax rate proposed in the 1928 tax reduction bill to apply retroactively to incomes paid this year on 1927 corporate incomes. The action was taken upon the advice of the finance committee and without a record vote. The House bill contained a provision which would have given to corporations a total refund of \$160,000,000. (Press, May 8.)

RADIO TELEVISION

Radio television to fit the waves instead of waves to fit television was proposed yesterday in New York by Federal Radio Commissioner O.H. Caldwell as a field to be more thoroughly studied by scientists. Mr. Caldwell explained that radio television as it is now being developed calls for the use of channels between fifty and 500 kilocycles wide, depending upon the size of the image desired, and that there are only a few such bands available in the short wave spectrum. Because of the meager number of such television "roadways" which can be assigned without encroaching on other established waves in that vicinity, Mr. Caldwell expressed the belief that engineers will find a way some day to confine television broadcasts within a few kilocycles. (Press, May 8.)

Section 2

American
College
Student
Lead

The Federal Bureau of Education estimates that there are more college students in the United States than in all the other countries combined. Its figures place the American total at about 1,000,000 and give the rest of the world 950,000. American students of high school rank were estimated to number 4,200,000 as compared with 5,700,000 for the other countries. In schools of all kinds 29,000,000 were enrolled in America, which was said to be more than one-fifth of the world's total. (Press, May 6.)

Banana "War"
Forecast

A Panama dispatch May 6 says: "A 'banana war' is impending in Central America, according to reports published in the newspapers of Costa Rica and Panama based on the activities and statements of James F. Gore, said to represent the Atlantic Fruit and Sugar Company, Inc., and the Cuyamel Fruit and Steamship Company, competitors of the United Fruit Company. Returning to Panama from Costa Rica, Mr. Gore announced that he had been successful in organizing a cooperative association of 1,000 independent banana planters in Costa Rica and that his association had been recognized and registered by the Costa Rican Government. A similar plan and association have been established in Jamaica by the same interests. The plan of organization of the cooperative association involves an agreement guaranteeing the members a fixed price of 60 cents a count bunch for their bananas and in addition a share in the profits that result from marketing the fruit in the United States. According to Mr. Gore, this means that the producer will receive probably \$1 more for each bunch of fruit marketed...."

Community
Planning

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 7 says: "Urban congestion, if it continues to increase for another fifty years as it has in the past fifty, will create evils beyond the ingenuity of man to remedy. That Americans generally are beginning to realize this may be read in the fact that practically all of our larger communities have taken up what is called city planning in more or less effective ways. Through the course of years they will doubtless accomplish much toward bringing order out of chaos, or at least preventing the crowding of apartments, sidewalks, streets and transit vehicles from becoming worse than it is. But this movement at best deals only with the arrangements for living and working for those who are or may come within municipal boundaries. It can hardly attempt to influence, except indirectly, the movement of population itself. Unless that tide comes under new influences, city planning can only mitigate the hardships of congestion. The possibility of measurably controlling the distribution of people over the face of the country is beginning to attract the attention of the socially minded, at a time when certain changes in the play of economic forces appear likely to favor such an attempt....The time may even come, 'in our day,' when civic pride will be not in mounting population figures but in a stationary or even falling number of inhabitants per square mile--when prominent Rotarians will not always say 'bigger and better,' but sometimes 'smaller and better' without feeling shame...."

Dairying in
Southwest

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for May 5 says: "At no time in the history of Texas and the Southwest have we ever produced our own needs in dairy products. For many years Farm and Ranch has advocated good dairy cows on every farm. Of late years others have taken up the

cry, and to-day there is a widespread interest in the industry. Farm and Ranch has never believed that any farm program can be abruptly changed with safety. For that reason it has not been a strong advocate of creamery and cheese factory construction except where the industry has been established a sufficient time with a sufficient number of producing cows to justify the undertaking. That creameries and cheese factories must ultimately become a factor in the marketing of milk and cream is a foregone conclusion, but they should not be organized in any community that can not provide the raw material in quantity and quality necessary to the successful operation of the plant....In the opinion of Farm and Ranch, if the farmers of the Southwest would exercise the same patience in developing the dairy industry as a part of a balanced farm program as they have in trying to make money out of cotton; giving time to the study of feeding and breeding and in caring for milk and cream, there would be no question about making a success of the business."

Dollar's Buying Power Measured by average living costs for the American wage earner, which includes the majority of the population, the purchasing power of the dollar stands higher to-day than it has for nearly five years, according to the monthly cost of living index of the National Industrial Conference Board. The dollar is now worth, on the basis of living costs during March, 62.1 cents in comparison with the purchasing power of the pre-war dollar in July, 1914. It was lowest in July, 1920, when it stood at 48.9 cents, as compared with July, 1914. The purchasing power of the dollar has been enhanced by a net decline in the cost of living of 21.2 per cent since July, 1920, the peak of the post-war inflation period. This decline has been a fairly steady one for the two years 1926 and 1927, living costs to-day being the lowest since June, 1923, when they were at about the present level. Among the chief factors in the declining cost of living were the items of food and rent. Retail food prices, the most important item in the wage earner's cost of living budget, in March this year were 31.1 per cent lower than in July, 1920, and about $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent lower than in March 1926.

Farm Situation An editorial in The Dairy Record for May 2 says: "The United in Denmark States isn't the only country which has its farm problem. Denmark, commonly accepted in this country as representing the acme of agricultural prosperity, is facing a crisis, judging from press reports. The following copyrighted Chicago Tribune dispatch, which appeared in the Minneapolis Tribune, gives some idea of the seriousness of the situation: 'Thirty-three per cent of the Danish farmers face bankruptcy in the near future, according to the conclusion of the Danish agricultural organization which has just completed an investigation into the country's present economic situation. A statement was published to-day by the Danish Farmers National Congress attacking the Government's inability to decrease the burdens of the farmer. The South Jutland farmers have formed a bloc and are threatening to refuse to pay the Government taxes until the legislature attempts to eliminate the farmers' troubles, chiefly caused by too high discount rates, high bank interest and heavy obligations left over from the war time. Other political parties which are unwilling to see the country's special budget decreased, state that the huge profits of the Danish farmers in the war time were used to purchase American motor cars and similar luxuries instead of trying to stabilize farming. It is believed a political crisis is near, as the position of the farmers obviously is growing worse daily!....'"



Insect Specimens The press of May 7 reports that a carload of Malayan insect specimens, a monument to the leisure hours of a great scientist, has been received at the Smithsonian Institution from the Philippines by United States Army transport. The report says: "The specimens represent the most extensive and varied collection of extant insects from the whole Malayan archipelago and were collected under the auspices of the late Charles Fuller Baker, Dean of the College of Agriculture of the University of the Philippines, who pinned and classified them when he was off duty. The number of specimens is estimated at 300,000. There are perhaps 50,000 more in the hands of 115 specialists scattered over the world, to whom Dean Baker sent many for identification. He spent fifteen years of spare-time labor making the collection."

New York Poultry Problems The New York Times of May 6 says: "An action instituted by Phillips & Nizer, counsel for B. Tait, Inc., a dealer in poultry, against the Greater New York Live Poultry Chamber of Commerce, the Official Orthodox Poultry Slaughterers of America, Inc.; the Chicken Drivers, Chauffeurs and Helpers' Union, Local 167, and thirty-three individual defendants, seeks the dissolution of an alleged poultry trust....Direct charges against the defendants include oppression to force the plaintiff and others to charge specified prices for poultry, the allocation of dealers to various wholesale houses, collecting one cent for each pound of poultry sold by the plaintiff...."

Vegetable Fuel Oil A Brussels dispatch May 6 states that while Belgian shipping circles are keenly interested in experiments in Great Britain to use pulverized coal as ships' fuel, chemists in Belgium are endeavoring to perfect a scheme which will enable them to utilize a Congo vegetable oil for the same purpose.

Wheat Pools and Their Opponents An editorial in The Farmer (St. Paul) for May 5 says: "Most of our readers are familiar with the so-called Federated Agricultural Trades organization which was formed in Chicago some weeks ago for the purpose of carrying on a vigorous fight against the cooperative movement....In some States where the cooperative movement is new or weak, the enemies of the movement have been able to do some damage. In States like Minnesota, where the cooperative movement is well established, the effort of the Federated Agricultural Trades association was practically abortive. In fact, this open attempt to throttle cooperation has served merely to strengthen the morale of members of cooperatives. The National Wheat Pool Committee held a meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska, last week and decided to formally accept the challenge of the Federated Agricultural Trades organization. The States of Minnesota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, and Indiana were represented at the Lincoln meeting. In the words of President L. Gough of the Texas Wheat Growers' Association, 'the call for the Chicago meeting is our acceptance of the challenge of the Federated Agricultural Trades of America which recently held a meeting in Chicago and outlined a program to oppose and fight the development of farmers' cooperative marketing organizations in this country....These dealers are not only fighting the cooperatives but are planning a campaign against farm organizations with a fund of a million dollars to carry on the fight, according to their own statements in their trade publications.' Holding a meeting such as is proposed by the National Wheat Pool Committee should be a good thing for the cooperative movement...."

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Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 7. Livestock quotations at Chicago on slaughter steers, good and choice, \$13-\$14.75; cows, good and choice, \$8.75-\$11.75; heifers, good and choice, \$12.25-\$14; vealers, good and choice, \$12-\$15; feeder and stocker steers, good and choice, \$11.50-\$12.75; heavy weight hogs, medium, good and choice, \$9.30-\$10; light lights, medium to choice, \$7.75-\$10; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice, \$7.25-\$8.75; slaughter lambs, good and choice, \$15.25-\$16.75.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes \$4.50-\$6 per barrel in eastern cities; \$4 f.o.b. Hastings. Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs \$3.50-\$3.75 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; \$2.25 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$2.05-\$2.25 in New York City; few sales of bulk stock \$1.10 f.o.b. Presque Isle. South Carolina pointed type cabbage \$1.75-\$2.50 per $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushel hamper in eastern markets. Alabama round type \$5-\$6 per barrel crate in the Middle West. Alabama and Mississippi pointed type \$5.50-\$5.75 in Chicago. Texas yellow Bermuda onions \$1.50-\$2.25 per standard crate in consuming centers; \$1-\$1.25 f.o.b. Laredo. New York Baldwin apples \$8-\$9 per barrel in a few eastern cities; \$8.25-\$8.50 f.o.b. Rochester.

Closing price of 92 score butter at New York was $44\frac{1}{2}\phi$.

Closing prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats 22- $22\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Single Daisies $23\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Young Americas 25- 26ϕ .

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 61 points to 29.90¢ per lb. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 58 points to 21.47¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they advanced 60 points to 21.14¢.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring wheat at Minneapolis \$1.84 $\frac{1}{4}$ -\$1.90 $\frac{1}{4}$. No.2 red winter, Chicago \$2.04; Kansas City \$1.95-\$2.02. No.2 hard winter, Chicago \$1.64 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.65; Kansas City \$1.60-\$1.62. No.3 mixed corn Chicago \$1.07 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.09 $\frac{1}{2}$; Minneapolis \$1.02-\$1.04; Kansas City \$1.01 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.02 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago \$1.10-\$1.12; Minneapolis \$1.07-\$1.09; Kansas City, \$1.07-\$1.08. No.3 white oats, Minneapolis 61 $\frac{1}{4}$ -63 $\frac{1}{4}\phi$; Kansas City 67-68¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXIX, No. 33

Section 1

May 9, 1928.

THE FLOOD BILL

The press to-day reports: "The Mississippi flood control bill neared the end of its legislative journey yesterday with adoption by the House of the conference report smoothing out differences with the Senate. One last lap remains before the measure goes to the White House--adoption of the report by the Senate. That is expected to come to-day and President Coolidge soon afterward will have on his desk the bill with which he and Congress have struggled for many months.... The conference report as approved by the House effected a number of changes in the bill to meet specific objections raised by the President. These differences were ironed out Monday at a White House meeting and the conference report then was revised....."

THE PRESIDENT ON TAX REDUCTION

The press to-day reports: "President Coolidge yesterday warned Congress that there could be no tax reduction unless excessive demands on the Treasury were eliminated and that there would be need for additional taxes if half of the pending projects were approved....."

GOVERNMENT POULTRY INSPECTION ASKED

The New York Times to-day reports that New York Health Commissioner Harris yesterday declared his intention of bringing to the attention of Members of Congress the need of legislation for safeguarding health by Government inspection of killed poultry.

RESERVE BOARD POLICY

The new credit policy established last summer by the Federal Reserve Board by means of open market purchases and reduction of rediscount rates was reached through "conversations" and not as a result of "record discussion," Dr. Adolph C. Miller, a member of the board, told the House banking and currency committee yesterday. Dr. Miller's statement was in reply to questions asked by Chairman McFadden of the committee, and came as the result of Dr. Miller's narration of the meetings which preceded the action and were participated in by officers of the board and the heads of the central banks of issue of Great Britain, France and Germany. The Chairman declared the meetings should have provided "record discussion." The witness explained that the open market committee of the Federal Reserve System, meeting in New York, had recommended that open market operations be undertaken to provide an easier money condition in the United States and stimulate the desired transfer to London. In discussing the Strong bill to stabilize the purchasing power of the dollar Dr. Miller renewed his former recommendation for a limitation on the authority of the Federal Reserve System to engage in open market operations. (Press, May 9.)

Section 2

Banana

The New York Times of May 3 says: "The United Fruit Company, whose fleet of eighty ships makes it one of the most powerful commercial shipping companies in several ports, is scheduled to face increased opposition due to the formation of independent cooperative associations of banana growers in Central America, according to stories from Costa Rica and Panama. Early reports lost some of their importance May 6 when T. L. Muller, president of the Atlantic Fruit and Sugar Company, reported to be the sponsor of the new opposition, said that he expected no 'banana war' and that he sought peace rather than trouble with the United Fruit Company. I. K. Ward, president of the Fruit Transport Company, which handles the marketing of the United Fruit Company's commerce, said that the cooperative groups could not afford to market bananas at 60 cents per count bunch with the expectation of getting \$2 to \$3.50 per bunch in the United States, as stated in reports. The latter are the top prices and the average is such that the reported agreement would not be logical, he said. Mr. Muller said that James F. Gore, a Jamaica merchant, represented his company in Central America temporarily while attempting to close certain contracts for the purchase of bananas. Mr. Gore was not instructed to organize banana merchants in opposition to the United Fruit Company, he said, and had not even closed the contracts for the bananas. Mr. Gore was credited as the source of stories to the effect that a drive would be opened on the United Fruit Company, and Mr. Muller said yesterday that Mr. Gore either spoke without authority or was misquoted."

British
Grading
Bill

The Field (London) for April 26 says: "The House of Commons has given a second reading to the agricultural produce (grading and marking) bill, which promises to lay the foundation of better business methods in the marketing of home produce by developing modern arrangements for grading and marketing eggs and fruit. As the Minister of Agriculture said in the debate, anyone who takes the trouble to look at the produce now offered for sale in our home markets must be convinced that much produce of excellent quality is spoilt by its ineffective presentation. Overseas supplies have the advantage of reliability, uniformity and attractive appearance. If home producers are to retain a proper share of business their produce must be just as attractive. The present bill gives the Ministry of Agriculture power to set up standards and grades, and establish a national mark, in the first instance for eggs and fruit. The hall mark of quality will be set on products that come up to standard, and if farmers determine to make full use of these grades, as there is every reason to think they will, a greatly improved demand should result. It is a little difficult to understand the opposition of the cooperative societies to the bill. Their spokesman in the House, A. V. Alexander, moved the rejection of the bill, mainly on the ground that it assumed the necessity of imported eggs being marked as such. Surely it is in the best interests of consumers' societies that home-produced eggs should be graded and marked and distinguished from imported and preserved eggs. The Cooperative Wholesale Society has repeatedly professed a desire to work with farmers' cooperative societies for the common interests of producer and consumer, but Mr. Alexander's attitude in the House of Commons appears to be directly opposed to this ideal."

Dairy Consumption

An editorial in The Progressive Farmer for May 5 says: "Frequently the question is asked, 'How shall we save ourselves from overproduction of dairy products?' This is a logical question for one who is considering the investing of his time and money in a herd of dairy cattle to ask. We experience severe price fluctuations and price depressions in the market range of our other farm products, so how about butter and butterfat?.... For further encouragement as to the dairy outlook, we have only to look into the possibilities for increased consumption of butter and other dairy products in our own country. Our per capita consumption of these products is relatively low as compared with some of the other countries of the world; thus leaving a potential market at home for an increasing volume of products. Educational work that will keep before our people facts concerning the food and health value of dairy products will result in an increasing volume of consumption. Recently the results of such an educational campaign were presented most strikingly in one of our southern cities where every resident was told of the value of milk as a food as well as its cheapness of cost per unit of food value.... The results were remarkable. The consumption of milk and other dairy products was increased over 15 per cent. This was done in one city in one week. The same can be done in other cities or in entire States. It should be done in the interest of health and economy. Furthermore, as a measure of relieving any possible overproduction that might occur in coming years, we can depend upon this sort of educational work always to keep the cows working full time at a profit to the owner."

Dairy Development

The great American cow, as a producing machine, was held up to both business and agriculture as an example of what should be done to improve conditions in both fields by A. J. Glover, of Fort Atkinson, Wis., in an address May 9 before the agricultural session of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. The cow, he said, illustrates the advantages of quality over quantity production. Milk production, which in 1926 reached the enormous total of 226,000,000,000 pounds has been going up but the number of cows has been going down. "The growth and development of the dairy industry," said Mr. Glover, "has been rapid and sound because it has received no artificial stimulant, but rather the application of sound business principles and practices. In 1916 we produced 80 billion pounds of milk, in 1921 nearly 99 billion pounds, and in 1926 nearly 122 billion pounds and during this period there was a decrease in the number of dairy cows. In 1916 we had 225 cows to 1,000 consumers, in 1921 about 200 cows to 1,000 consumers, and in 1926 about 189 cows to 1,000 consumers. In 1916 the cows averaged 3,700 lbs. milk, in 1921 about 4,000 lbs. This increased production of our cows has literally meant millions of dollars of increased returns to dairy farmers. Right in connection with increased production has come increased consumption of dairy products. In 1916 the per capita consumption of dairy products was equivalent to 804 lbs. milk, in 1921 about 920 lbs., and in 1926 about 1,040 lbs., or an increase in consumption of dairy products of better than 30%. This increase alone has brought the dairy farmers \$500,000,000 annually. We must bear in mind also that our population increased about two million a year; or, in other words, we have each morning about 5,000 brand new consumers. In the past ten years we have had a total increased consumption of dairy products which amounts to 51%. Notwithstanding our rapidly growing population it is within the limits of practical attainment upon the part of the dairy farmers to meet the increased demand for dairy products till 1950 without increasing the number of our dairy cows....."

Master Farmer on Roy Johnson, Master Farmer, of Casselton, North Dakota, Agricultural Policy made before the Chamber of Commerce of the United States to-day a plea for cooperation in the establishment of a national agricultural policy. He explained in general terms the methods by which he had made a success of farming. His average gross profit for four years, he said, had been \$17,038 and his annual net profit \$5,146, representing an earning of 6.3 per cent on an invested capital of \$80,925. But he did not take his own case as typical of the American farmer. "I do not want to leave the impression," he said, "that self help or the adjustment of farmers individually to existing conditions will solve the whole farm problem, because the placing of all the farmers of the country on the basis I have just described would simply aggravate the problem by providing greater surpluses, and prices would be correspondingly lowered, but I do want you to know that there are a great many farmers who are making progress. It is possible on an income such as I have told about to enjoy in the country a standard of living comparable to that of the average town and city dweller, and it is this standard of living which the average farmer employing reasonable intelligence and diligence should be privileged to enjoy, but which at the present time is beyond his reach, and which in the main is caused by conditions which he alone, or as a group, can not entirely remedy. It is for this reason that the problem is one of national proportions. If given a set of conditions that will remain stable over a considerable period of time, agriculture will adjust itself to them and prosper, but inherently it is so constituted, being not only a business, but also a mode of life, and supplying the sole support as well as the home for the family, that it can not adjust itself quickly. When the deflation came after a period of liberal credit, and no more money was to be had, Agriculture set about adjusting itself, and after an eight year period is still in the process of adjustment. It is, therefore, imperative that industry lend its influence in stabilizing conditions generally throughout the country....."

Stock Average

A New Haven dispatch May 7 says: "The weekly index number of stock exchange prices, compiled by Professor Irving Fisher and based on the week's fifty most active industrial stocks, reckoned on their average of 1926 as 100, is 350.0. This compares with 336.1 the week before, 343.0 two weeks ago, 339.1 three weeks before and 332.0 four weeks before. This week's average is the highest for the year to date; the lowest was 253.9, for the week ended Feb. 24. For the full month of April the average is 339.3. This compares with 295.4 for March, 263.0 for February and 147.4 for April, 1927. This month's average is the highest for the year to date; the lowest was 260.0 for the month of January. The highest monthly average in 1927 was 245.3 for December; the lowest, 125.1 for January."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial on Government crop reports in Southern Ruralist for May 1 says: ".....The whole point, as we have attempted to emphasize before, is that the Government is the most trustworthy source of information. It is the most unbiased source. It has resources at its command for gathering information that is not and could not be

duplicated by any private concern. Moreover, the Government is interested only in facts, wishing neither to favor the farmer nor commercial interests whom he supplies with raw products....."

Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 8: Livestock prices quoted May 8: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$13.25 to \$15.00; cows, good and choice \$8.75 to \$11.00; heifers (850 lbs. down) good and choice \$12.50 to \$14.00; vealers, good and choice \$12.50 to \$16.00; feeder and stocker cattle Steers, good and choice \$11.50 to \$12.75; heavy weight (250-350 lbs.) medium good and choice \$9.40 to \$10.25; light lights (130-160 lbs.) medium to choice \$8.10 to \$10.25; slaughter pigs (90-130 lbs.) medium good and choice (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations) \$7.25 to \$9.00; slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (84 lbs. down) \$15.25 to \$16.90.

Grain prices quoted May 8: No. 1 dark northern spring 13% protein Minneapolis \$1.83 5/8 to \$1.89 5/8; No. 2 red winter Chicago \$2.04 1/2; Kansas City \$1.95 to \$2.02; No. 2 hard winter 12 1/2% protein Kansas City \$1.70 1/2 to \$1.75 1/2; No. 2 hard winter (Not on protein basis) Chicago \$1.62 1/2 to \$1.64; Kansas City \$1.59 to \$1.60; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago \$1.09; Minneapolis \$1.02 to \$1.04; Kansas City \$1.01 to \$1.02. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.09 1/2 to \$1.13 3/4; Minneapolis \$1.07 to \$1.09; Kansas City \$1.06 1/2 to \$1.07 1/2; No. 3 white oats Chicago 65 1/2 to 69 1/4¢; Minneapolis 61 3/4 to 63 3/4¢; Kansas City 66¢ to 67 1/2¢.

May future contracts to-day on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 4 points to 21.43¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they were down 7 points at 21.07¢. The average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 6 points to 20.84¢ per lb. On the same day last season the price stood at 15.11¢.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes sold at \$5-\$6 per barrel in eastern cities and at \$4-\$4.25 f.o.b. Hastings. Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs \$3.25-\$4 per 100 pounds in midwestern markets; very few sales at \$2.25 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$1.90-\$2.50 in the East and \$1.10 f.o.b. Presque Isle. South Carolina pointed type cabbage \$2-\$2.50 per 1 1/2-bushel hamper in eastern cities. Alabama and Mississippi pointed type \$5.25-\$5.50 per barrel crate in Chicago. Louisiana Klondike strawberries \$3-\$3.75 per 24-pint crate in leading markets; auction sales \$2.30-\$2.77 1/2 at Hammond. North Carolina Klondikes 14¢-16¢ quart basis in eastern cities. Texas yellow Bermuda onions ranged \$1.50-\$2.25 per standard crate in consuming centers; 85¢-\$1 f.o.b. Laredo.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were; 92 score, 44 1/2 cents; 91 score, 44 1/4 cents; 90 score, 44 cents. Wholesale prices of fresh No. 1 American cheese at New York were: Flats, 22 to 22 1/2 cents; Single Daisies, 23 1/2 cents; Young Americas, 25 to 26 cents. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXIX, No. 34

Section 1

May 10, 1928.

COMMERCE CHAMBER

The press to-day reports: "A recommendation for the creation of a Federal Farm Board by President Coolidge to study the needs of agriculture and to make a comprehensive report to Congress for the purpose of securing the necessary farm relief legislation was presented for consideration to the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States yesterday at the agricultural session of the sixteenth annual convention of the chamber at Washington...In calling attention to the fact that the committee recommended no individual piece of legislation, Dwight B. Heard, newspaper publisher, of Arizona, and chairman of the committee, said the committee was convinced of the inadequacy of the McNary-Haugen bill now before Congress, and that to enable agriculture to obtain its share of the national income it is essential that it be organized along the modern lines of other American industries. Were agriculture organized along the same lines as other industrial activities, the committee reported, it would result in the intelligent control and distribution of seasonal surplus production, the stabilization of prices, the avoidance of glutted markets, increased unit production, utilization of land resources, improved methods of orderly and efficient commodity marketing through cooperative action and the development and maintenance of favorable facilities for production and marketing credit.

"The committee also recommended protection of the farmer against destructive competition for importations of agricultural commodities produced in countries where low costs place these commodities on the American market at a price which the American farmer can not meet; the full development and adaptation of existing agricultural credit facilities to local and commodity needs, both for production and marketing credits, and the development of new lands at public expense delayed until the additional production which would result can be demonstrated to be an economic need...."

THE FLOOD BILL

Without a record vote, the Senate yesterday adopted the conference report on the flood control bill, which was approved by the House May 8, according to the press to-day. The measure will go within a few days to President Coolidge for his signature. The report says: "Mr. Coolidge has indicated that he would sign the bill as the best that can be obtained in the circumstances. As a matter of formality he will refer the bill to the Army Engineers and to Attorney General Sargent, and this may mean an interval of a week or ten days before it receives executive approval....The bill authorizes the expenditure of \$325,000,000 for the flood control project, but, according to President Coolidge and Major General Jadwin, Chief of Army Engineers, the actual minimum cost will be at least \$500,000,000. The bill places final authority in the hands of the President....While the bill declares for the retention of the principle of local contribution toward flood control projects, local interests must furnish only such additional rights of way as are needed for levees on the main channel of the Mississippi and must maintain the flood control works when completed. The Federal Government will bear the entire cost of the construction of levees and other flood control works and will furnish rights of way for levees along floodways and spillways. It is provided that Army Engineers shall submit to Congress flood control plan for tributaries and that studies shall be made of reforestation as a means of flood control."

Section 2

Anti-Trust
Laws

The existence of a twilight zone of uncertainty between what is lawful and what is unlawful under the anti-trust acts was emphasized by W.E. Humphrey, chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, in an address before the general session of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, May 10. "It is absolutely dishonest," he asserted, "to claim that there is a clear and distinct line between what is and what is not unlawful under the anti-trust acts. Only within the last few months four cases of very great importance have been decided by the Supreme Court of the United States in which the Justices were divided four to five upon the proposition as to whether certain facts constituted a violation of the antitrust laws. Indeed, it rarely happens that the decisions of this court are unanimous in an anti-trust case. If this great court...can not always agree upon what facts constitute a violation of the anti-trust laws, how can any sane and honest man say that a business man must always know with certainty when he is violating the anti-trust laws...."

Business Cycle

The country is in a new major business cycle characterized by frequent moderate corrections of particular aspects of business, as contrasted to old-fashioned swings, which carried all business up or down, the American Bankers Association Journal says in its current business review. "The general business situation does not appear to have changed greatly during the past month," says the Journal. "By far its most conspicuous feature has been the record speculation in stocks, which seems to have improved confidence in the business outlook. Assurances of fundamental conditions being on a sound basis are mentioned frequently, yet there still persists that lack of uniformity among the major industries which characterized last year. The business picture, taken as a whole, displays numerous bright spots of prosperity, mixed through the entire range of shades down to the dark shadows of depression. Reports of particular industries and individual companies for the first quarter are similar to the results obtained last year. They emphasize the impression that a new business cycle is prevailing. It is a major cycle of stability, made up of many smaller cycles of good, bad and indifferent business which in the aggregate tend to practically offset each other. It is a cycle of frequent but moderate corrections, in contrast with the old swings which occurred every seven years or so on an average and carried all business up and down together. Nothing approaching a general depression is considered likely provided the movement of the various elements making up the business structure can be kept within reasonable limits. Whether the present enormous volume of trading in securities and the extent to which prices have been bid up constitutes any serious threat to this equilibrium, and thereby to national prosperity, is an open question. Whether stock prices are getting out of line and whether bank credit for secured loans is excessive, every one must decide for himself. Money market conditions are, in their sensitive but definite way, registering the credit expansion that is taking place on the one hand, and the effect of continued gold exports on the other. Rates are working moderately higher, but are still normal and no real tightening has yet appeared."

Business

Principles

American business has achieved new standards of morality under competitive conditions which have brought it about that "only that business will succeed which loads its products with intrinsic social services," J.H. Puelicher, chairman of the board of American Bankers Association Educational Foundation, told the civic development group meeting of the sixteenth annual convention of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States at Washington, May 9. "Mr. Puelicher said in part: "America in the last two decades has achieved a rather outstanding business morality. Business and service have become almost synonymous. There was a time when 'Charge what the traffic will bear' was an accepted business principle. Such principles have become archaic. The manufacturer of things for sale, rather than for use, is rapidly fading from the picture.... Business thus becomes a form of economic service, an essential part of what we term social service, and to-day any business in the United States which does not perform social service has not long to live. The new spirit of business is that of a profession--whose formulae spring from scientific research and whose application is dominated by social significance. Even the nature of competition has changed with this growing business morality. The ruthless slaughter of competitors by fair means, or foul, has been replaced by a competition of greater service. The fundamentals of commerce and industry are being established through co-operative effort."

Farm Land
Exchange

An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for May 5 says: "The indications are that the back to the land movement is beginning. Real estate operators say that not since 1919 has the inquiry for farm land been as great in Michigan as this spring. An increasing number of people are endeavoring to trade their city property for farm lands, most of them being experienced farmers who left the country during the great march cityward from 1919 to 1925. These ex-farmers have found that these six to eight years in the city have not made them rich, and in many cases they have tied themselves up with property contracts which are now loads on their shoulders. City property values are not increasing, but instead show a decline which is not pleasant to those who have agreed to pay for property at higher prices. This movement from the city to the farm is also helped by the fact that modern conveniences are more available in the country now than before. Therefore, to the women the country has greater attractions than previously. When these folks go back to the farm, many of these conveniences will be deemed necessary...."

Guernsey

Breeder's

Convention

An editorial in The Wisconsin Farmer for May 3 says: "The eyes of the Guernsey world will be turned to Chicago May 16-17, when the annual convention of The American Cattle Club will be held, followed by the national cattle sale. It will be the fifty-first annual convention of a breed in which Wisconsin is a premier State. Karl B. Musser, national secretary, will give some figures on the growth of the breed and the business transacted during 1927, which will no doubt add another feather to the dairy cap of this State. Some of the discussions will center around the proposed change in the by-laws to the constitution governing sales and transactions which reads: 'Animals sold at public auction must be transferred from the seller to the buyer and shall not be retransferred to the seller until a satisfactory explanation is filed with the secretary of the club and is accepted by

the executive committee. '...The national sale is of more than general interest as an index of standard values on the best type of Guernseys. ...'"

International Business Evans Clark writes under the title, "Uncle Sam Now World's Business Man" in The New York Times for April 29. He says: "Eight hundred British drug stores are now owned and controlled by the same American concern, with headquarters in Boston, that runs 10,000 such stores in the United States; the familiar red signs of a well-known domestic five-and-ten-cent chain appear both on Berlin and London street corners; the laboratories of a St. Louis chemical concern turn out American mouth wash in Madrid; the plant of a Detroit manufacturer assembles American automobiles in Osaka; the tanks and filling stations of a New York oil company serve Sumatra, Straits Settlements and Siam....The evidence accumulates that Uncle Sam has now become the world's leading business man....To-day practically every big concern in the United States is an American international corporation. American business jumped the boundaries of States with the trusts of the past generation. The super-trust of to-day, following the same inexorable economic destiny, oversteps the boundaries of the Nation. Paris, Rio, Berlin, Buenos Aires, Melbourne or Calcutta are included by the American corporation of 1928, with Chicago, New Orleans or Philadelphia in the field of its active operations. That American business is selling its products in the markets of the world is no new development, although the volume has made gigantic expansion since the World War broke....Like a great many phases of our fantastic industrial development the sweep of this movement has been more swift than is comprehended by the public, let alone economists and Government statisticians. That America is the world's banker has been generally recognized. The implications of our new position in the society of nations are giving serious concern in high places both here and abroad. But the fact and the consequences of our new status as business man for the world at large have hardly entered public consciousness...."

Labor Conditions in France The number of persons receiving unemployment allowances in France during the week ending April 7, according to official statistics transmitted to the Bankers Trust Company of New York by its French information service, totaled 9,583 as against 10,473 the previous week. Of these 7,630 were in Paris and the Department of the Seine. Foreign workers admitted to France during the whole year 1927 numbered 64,325 of whom 45,547 were agricultural, while those sent back to their respective countries totaled 89,982. From 1922 to 1927, 1,112,579 foreign workers entered France while 351,070 left the country.

Land Capitalization An editorial in Wallace's Farmer for May 4 says: "Here are two quotations from an economic discussion of 'The Condition of the Western Farmer,' published by Johns Hopkins University: 'In the region which we are considering, capitalization of all agricultural property is too high (it has been previously maintained that the basis of capitalization is not so much income as demand arising from other causes), and from this two results follow: First, that the rate of income from land is low compared to that from other investments, and, second, that the marginal amount of money that can be borrowed on the land is high in just the proportion that the capitalization is high. Now, under

the circumstances, let a farmer pay the rate of interest which is current in the money markets, and if the debt is too large or long continued, the tendency is for him steadily to lose. It must, of course, be remembered that agriculture is a highly uncertain occupation, so that a succession of good crops may entirely overcome this normal loss, or a succession of poor ones may greatly increase it.'...This has a somewhat familiar ring. Economists make similar comments as to Iowa farms these days, but these quotations happen to have been published thirty-five years ago. The region where 'capitalization was too high' was in the vicinity of Grand Island, Nebraska, and capitalizations were particularly high in the precinct the economist surveyed, because it was close to the Union Pacific Railroad, some of the original purchasers bought land grant farms from the railroad on easy terms and had sold at a profit. Valuations for well improved quarter sections were \$25 an acre, and some silly owners were holding out for \$30 and \$35 an acre, if they had good houses and barns. The mortgages on mortgaged land averaged less than \$10 an acre...."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 9. Livestock prices quoted: Steers, good and choice, \$13.25 to \$15; cows, good and choice, \$8.75 to \$11; heifers, good and choice, \$12.50 to \$14; vealers, good and choice, \$12 to \$15; feeder and stocker cattle steers, good and choice, \$11.50 to \$12.75; hogs, heavy weight, medium good and choice, \$9.40 to \$10.25; light lights, medium to choice, \$7.75 to \$10; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice, \$7 to \$8.75; (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs, good and choice, \$15.25 to \$16.65.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring (13% protein) Minneapolis, \$1.82 $\frac{5}{8}$ to \$1.88 $\frac{5}{8}$. No.2 red winter Chicago \$2.09; Kansas City \$1.95 to \$2.03. No.2 hard winter (12 $\frac{1}{2}$ % protein) Kansas City \$1.70 to \$1.76 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis) Chicago \$1.65; Kansas City \$1.59 to \$1.60 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.3 mixed corn Chicago \$1.09 to \$1.09 $\frac{1}{2}$; Minneapolis \$1.01 to \$1.03; Kansas City \$1.01 to \$1.02. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.10 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$1.11 $\frac{3}{4}$; Minneapolis \$1.06 to \$1.08; Kansas City \$1.06 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$1.07 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.3 white oats Chicago 66 to 70¢; Minneapolis 62 $\frac{1}{8}$ to 64 $\frac{1}{8}$ ¢; Kansas City 66 to 88¢.

May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 8 points to 21.35¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they declined 11 points to 20.96¢. May futures on the Chicago Board of Trade advanced 3 points to 21.23¢. The average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 3 points to 20.81¢ per lb. On the same day last season the price stood at 14.93¢.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes sold at \$5-\$6 per barrel in leading markets; \$4 f.o.b. Hastings. Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs brought \$3.25-\$3.75 per 100 pounds on the Chicago carlot market and sold at \$2.25 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites dropped to \$1.40-\$1.60 carlot sales in Chicago. Louisiana Klondike strawberries sold at \$3-\$3.75 per 24-pint crate in leading markets; auction sales \$2.45-\$3 at Hammond. Texas yellow Bermuda onions ranged \$1.25-\$2.25 per standard crate in consuming centers; 90¢- \$1 f.o.b. Laredo. South Carolina pointed type cabbage \$2.25-\$3.25 per $\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper in eastern cities. Alabama and Mississippi pointed type \$5 per barrel crate in Chicago. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXIX, No. 35

Section 1

May 11, 1928

FLOOD DAMAGED ROAD FUNDS

The press to-day reports that the House yesterday accepted Senate amendments to the Department of Agriculture appropriation bill providing \$5,196,000 for the restoration of flood damaged roads and bridges in Vermont, Kentucky and New Hampshire.

FEDERAL SALARY BILL

The Washington Post to-day says: "Storm clouds appeared over the course of the Smoot-Welch pay-raise bill last night, and at the same time there were indications that the bill to be reported to the Senate would be radically different from the bill passed by the House. Senator Dill of Washington arose at last night's session of the Senate and made a blistering attack on the bill. Originally designed to help the poorly-paid employees, he said, the bill has been so manipulated that it now is principally for the benefit of those who already receive good pay. Dill warned that unless the bill were amended to take better care of the poorly-paid employees it would have a 'long, hard struggle' getting through the Senate....The Senate civil service committee will hold another hearing on the Smoot-Welch pay-raise bill tomorrow morning. Among the witnesses will be experts from the Bureau of the Budget and the Personnel Classification Board, who virtually wrote the bill. Senator Smoot yesterday urged the Senate civil service committee to substitute for his bill the one introduced by Representative Welch of California in the House and which was passed by that body last week. The Utah Senator said this would be in the interest of speedy action in the Senate...."

RETIREMENT LEGISLATION

The Dale bill to liberalize the civil service retirement law yesterday was substituted for the Lehlbach bill by the House civil service committee and favorably reported to the House, according to the press to-day. The Dale bill, which has passed the Senate, is fundamentally the same as the Lehlbach bill, the only difference being in the age limits it sets for retirement. The bill increases the maximum retirement annuity from \$1,000 to \$1,200, and makes retirement optional with the employee after 30 years of service, provided a certain age has been reached. The great army of clerks in Washington could retire at 68 after 30 years service.

BRITISH FARM CREDITS BILL

A London dispatch May 10 states that the House of Commons May 9 passed on its second reading by a vote of 223 to 106 the Government's agricultural credits bill. The bill proposes to provide farmers with long term credits under partial Government guarantee by the institution of an agricultural mortgage corporation which would work in cooperation with the greater banks of England, led by the Bank of England.

THE FLOOD BILL

The Mississippi flood control bill was in the hands of President Coolidge last night. It was sent to him from Congress, where earlier in the day the last legislative touch was given it. (A.P., May 11.)

Section 2

Armour Stock A Chicago dispatch to the press of May 10 says: "F. Edson White, president of Armour & Co., said the option given Arthur W. Cutten and several others to purchase 951,000 shares of Armour B common has been exercised. A block of 312,000 shares of the A stock, which has been mentioned in connection with this option, was not included in the transaction, Mr. White said, and is 'not for sale.' Sale of the B stock was contingent on satisfactory all-around settlement of J. Ogden Armour's estate, which has been effected."

Business Outlook Industrial corporation earnings for the first quarter of the present year are generally running ahead of the corresponding period for 1927, the American Bankers Association Journal says in its current business review. "Earnings statements recently published by leading industrial corporations for the first quarter of the current year make a very satisfactory showing," says the Journal. "Of the first hundred or more reports issued, two-thirds are running higher than in the first quarter of 1927, which comes somewhat as a surprise in view of the complaints so frequently heard on business since the first of January, and also considering that the initial quarter of 1927 was one of the best. General Motors Corporation, world's largest industrial organization in point of earnings, reported a net profit during the first quarter of \$69,469,000, the highest in its history with one exception, and comparing with \$52,531,000, in the corresponding quarter last year, a gain of 32 per cent. Of eighteen other motor car and accessory manufacturers, seventeen were ahead of last year and only one behind. Their combined earnings increased from \$19,220,000 to \$25,090,000, or 30 per cent. United States Steel Corporation reported net profits after charges of \$21,332,000, as compared with \$26,327,000 a year ago, representing a decline of 19 per cent. Nine other large steel companies had combined earnings for the quarter of \$13,381,000, compared with \$16,744,000 a year ago, being a decline of 20 per cent. Among other industries there is more irregularity, although the majority of reports show an improvement. The oil industry appears to be recovering, while coal is still depressed. Baking, foodstuffs and merchandise continue their steady upward trend. Textiles, metals and machinery are irregular."

Commerce and the Universities The Statist (London) for April 28 says: "...The growing influx of students from the secondary schools must exercise an influence on the life and outlook of the universities, from which even Oxford and Cambridge can not be wholly exempt. Moreover, the establishment in recent years of a number of new universities, especially in the North, the Midlands and in Wales, combined with their broader teaching and greater attention to science and to industrial subjects, can not but have had its effect upon the older foundations. The closer connection of the universities with the business life of Great Britain is much to be welcomed and is reciprocally beneficial. Commerce and industry benefit by the introduction of broad and cultured minds, free from hampering trade traditions....The universities profit by the revivifying effect of a more intimate touch with actual life, and by a broadening of their interests and activities without, necessarily, any weakening of their academic status and authority....But there is every reason why undergraduates, avowedly destined for a business career, should be afforded facilities for the study of modern languages, business economics, exchange, markets, finance, the mechanism of joint-stock companies and other kindred subjects to a far more ample and effective extent than prevails to-day."

1870

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Cotton Market

An editorial entitled "Hazing the Cotton Market," in Regulation The Wall Street Journal for May 9 says: "...Congress has a sufficient number of legislative experiments in the regulation of cotton markets to form an entirely adequate guide, if it really wanted to know what to do and, still more important, what to let alone. A number of States, chiefly in the South, have enacted legislation prohibiting trading in futures, with Georgia the first to adventure into that dangerous path. That was a peculiarly ignorant muddle and the most the legislators could say was that they 'didn't mean to do it.' Georgia really wanted to prohibit bucketshop gambling. This would be perfectly proper with exact definitions of what constituted a bucketshop and what constituted gambling. The legislature was poorly informed, as Fenner & Beane, of New Orleans, correctly point out. Lacking technical knowledge of a modern market the bill finally framed not only prohibited bucketshop gambling but legitimate contract purchases and sales of cotton for future delivery. No better example of burning the barn to kill the rats could be afforded. Arkansas still retains an anti-futures law which has been on the statute books for a quarter of a century. North Carolina has something of the kind but its teeth have become dull, for it enacted a lawsuit in pretty nearly every clause. Oklahoma passed the first sound law legalizing future trading. The State of Mississippi repealed its anti-futures trading law and has quite a model enactment based on that of Oklahoma. South Carolina has done likewise. Texas was really the first State to repeal its anti-futures trading law for the general good of the cotton industry within its borders. Florida scrapped its early efforts in that direction, realizing that its development depended upon a broad condition of freedom to attract the kind of citizens it needs."

Mohair Exports

The Oregon Farmer for May 3 says: "Great Britain, which hitherto has been a mohair exporting country, for the first time in history is seeking mohair from the United States. Last year the Pacific Cooperative Wool Growers made a shipment of Texas kid hair direct to England at prices better than were obtainable in this country at the time, and recently it was requested by one of the largest mohair mills in Bradford, England, to send type samples of domestic American mohair and particulars. America is increasing its production of mohair, according to R.A. Ward, general manager of the Pacific."

Pecan Production

In an editorial on the coming convention of the Georgia-Florida Pecan Growers, Florida Times-Union for May 8 says: "...and Georgia Florida is producing some of the finest pecans ever grown anywhere and is working out the best methods of tree planting, fertilization, care and control of products, but the number of groves is yet comparatively small, and it is still regarded as a 'side issue' by many who have a few trees only and do not give them great attention. Later the crop is certain to be more highly regarded, and it will, no doubt, come to be figured as among the big industries of the State. The development of the pecan industry is only begun in this State, and it certainly has great prospects."

Potash Prices

Current prices for potash will prevail through 1928 despite contradicting reports that the Franco-German potash industry abroad is preparing to advance its prices to America, it was announced May 9 by N.V.Potash Export, My., a Holland corporation, which represents the industry in America and distributes 85 per cent of the potash in this country. The report in New York Times for May 10 says: "American consumption in 1913 was 256,561 tons and had for years been increasing at the rate of 10 per cent annually. It is estimated that if the war had not intervened the consumption in 1927 would normally have been about 950,000 tons, and the total for the period 1914-1927 would have been 7,700,000 tons. Actually, however, the American consumption in 1927 was 290,000 tons, and for the period 1914-1927 the total was 2,131,643 tons."

Production Control

Adequate control of the economic thunderbolt of increasing production unloosed by industry was put forward by Lewis E. Pierson, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, as the overshadowing problem of business, in an address at Washington May 10. "The Nation", he said, "which has won its way to industrial leadership by the stimulation of production and which has enlisted the aid of science and invention to perfect the efficiency of its industrial processes, has a new task before it. It must prove that production is its servant and not its master. It must demonstrate that it has the will and the skill to control the machine it has created." Closer cooperation on the part of business, labor, agriculture and finance to accomplish this purpose was predicted by Mr. Pierson. "The day, I think, is not far distant", he said, "when organized business, organized labor and a comprehending Government will unite for intelligent teamwork that alone can solve our newer problems....Teamwork that will permit the wheels of industry to turn with increasing effectiveness, to bring more and more of the comforts and even the luxuries of life to all who contribute to the productive power of America. Teamwork that will remove the threat of an unused surplus from the Nation that has staked its economic life on the doctrine of increasing production.... The more we consider the growing productiveness of the United States, the more we reflect upon the problems that have arisen in our industries--and on our farms as well--the more definitely we become convinced that our difficulties come not so much from the growth of our productive capacity, as from our failure to provide proper teamplay among the forces of production. Industry and agriculture have both reached the point in their development where the individual must think in terms of his relationship to the broad sweep of world competition. No man and no organization is strong enough to go blindly forward without regard to what the rest of the world is doing."

Spanish Tariff

A Madrid dispatch May 10 states that the committee intrusted with revision of the customs tariff has begun its meetings with livestock dealers holding the upper hand. The farm bloc, which for a long time has been desirous of such control, thus far has been unsuccessful. The report says: "The new tariff drawn up several months ago has been submitted for comment to various commercial and industrial interests. After necessary modifications are made and the committee has given its indorsement, the bill will be submitted to the Council of Ministers for their approval."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 10. Livestock quotations at Chicago on slaughter steers, good and choice, \$13.25-\$14.90; cows, good and choice, \$9-\$12; heifers, good and choice, \$12.50-\$14; vealers, good and choice, \$11.50-\$15; feeder and stocker steers, good and choice, \$11.50-\$12.75; heavy weight hogs, medium, good and choice, \$9.25-\$10.05; light lights medium to choice, \$7.25-\$9.75; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice, \$6.50-\$8.25; slaughter lambs, good and choice, \$15.25-\$16.65.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes \$5-\$6 per barrel in eastern markets; \$4 f.o.b. Hastings. Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs \$3.25-\$3.70 per 100 pounds on the Chicago carlot market and sold \$2.25 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$1.85-\$2.35 in eastern cities; bulk stock \$1 f.o.b. Presque Isle. South Carolina pointed type cabbage \$2.25-\$3 per 1½ bushel hamper in eastern markets. Virginia stock \$5-\$6 per barrel crate in Philadelphia. Alabama and Mississippi pointed type \$5 in Chicago. North Carolina Klondike strawberries 12¢-35¢ per quart in the East; \$4-\$5 per 32-quart crate to growers in the Chadbourn section of North Carolina. Louisiana Klondikes \$3.25-\$4 per 24-pint crate in midwestern cities; \$3-\$3.30 auction sales at Hammond. Texas yellow Bermuda onions \$1.25-\$2 per standard crate in consuming centers and 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. Laredo.

Closing price of 92 score butter at New York was 44½¢.

Closing prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats 22-22½¢; Single Daisies 23½¢; Young Americas 25-26¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 9 points to 20.90¢ per lb. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 10 points to 21.45¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they advanced 5 points to 21.01¢.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring wheat at Minneapolis \$1.76 1/8-\$1.82 1/8. No.2 red winter, Chicago \$1.95; Kansas City \$1.88-\$1.96. No.2 hard winter, Chicago \$1.58; Kansas City \$1.52-\$1.54½. No.3 mixed corn, Chicago \$1.05½; Minneapolis 98½¢-\$1.00½; Kansas City 97¢-99¢. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago \$1.08-\$1.10; Minneapolis \$1.03½-\$1.05½; Kansas City \$1.03-\$1.05. No.3 white oats, Chicago 66¾¢-70½¢; Minneapolis 62¢-64¢; Kansas City 67-68¢.
(Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXIX, No. 36

Section 1

May 12, 1928.

COTTON PENALTY BILL

The Associated Press to-day reports: "A bill fixing a penalty of \$15,000 fine or five years' imprisonment for Government officers who publish or authorize publication of price predictions of cotton was passed yesterday by the Senate and sent to the House. The vote was 64 to 10. Senator Heflin, Democrat, of Alabama, sponsored the measure....Provisions applying the penalty in cases of predictions of prices on grain and corn were eliminated without discussion."

COTTON MARKET LEGISLATION

The press of May 10 says: "Legislation designed to stifle manipulation of cotton markets was advanced May 9 when the House committee on agriculture ordered a favorable report on the Vinson bill, and Senator Ellison D. Smith, South Carolina, chairman of the Senate cotton trade probe committee, held conferences with cotton merchants and others, endeavoring to perfect his bill. The measure lodges wide powers in the Secretary of Agriculture to regulate dealings in cotton futures, providing for maximum so-called 'open interests' that any one firm may have each month. The bill seeks to regulate transactions on the cotton futures exchanges, places the exchanges which must make applications to the Secretary of Agriculture for permission to operate under Government regulations, the same as the regulations of the grain futures exchanges. Amendments providing for southern deliveries of cotton sold on New York and Chicago exchanges, at Norfolk, Charleston, Savannah, New Orleans, Houston and Galveston were added to the measure. It reenacts various provisions of the Cotton Futures Act of 1916, omitting the taxing features of that law. It also classifies certain forms of trading as manipulation and prohibits the same."

FEDERAL SALARY BILL

The Washington Post to-day says: "Faced with the warning of 'Smoot-Welch bill, or no bill,' and expressions of dissatisfaction with the bill from members of Congress and Government employees generally, the Senate civil service committee this morning will hold another hearing on the measure in an attempt to reach an agreement on its provisions...."

FRENCH WHEAT ENVOY

Ernest Vilgrain, former French Under Secretary of State in the Food Ministry and now president of the Grands Moulins de Paris, the largest chain of flour mills in France, has arrived in New York to study conditions in the wheat districts of this country, and in the mills and markets of the Middle West. He has been sent to the United States by the French Ministry of Agriculture with the idea of utilizing American methods of growing and milling to improve the quality of wheat and flour produced in France. (Press, May 11.)

Section 2

Agriculture and Commerce Adjustments between the prices of farm products and industrial products must be made if the world is to progress along sound economic principles, Dr. Gustav Cassel, professor of political economy at the University of Stockholm, told a group of educators, economists, financiers and business men attending a luncheon at the Yale Club, New York, May 10. Professor Cassel said that the chief cause for the economic maladjustment of the moment is the fact that certain industries, notably the growth of agricultural staples, involves international competition, whereas other industries protected by local conditions are not subjected to this external pressure. (Press, May 11.)

Apple Industry In Vermont An editorial in New England Homestead for May 12 says: "Full returns to Vermont growers for apples sold last fall indicate that the fruit is likely to be one of the most profitable crops grown in the State during 1927. The stable McIntosh and a few other choice varieties are taking the leading place as profit returners. Prices received for good quality McIntosh are reported as ranging from \$11 to \$14 per barrel. The latter price is believed to be the highest ever received by a Vermont grower for apples sold in quantity. Many of the good orchards in the State will have a gross return that will run into the thousands of dollars. Year in and year out fruit production on a commercial scale in the Green Mountain State is a profitable business. One grower has a block of 1,800 McIntosh trees, now 15 years old, that are estimated to have produced, so far, \$100,000 worth of good fruit. Vermont grown McIntosh apples are receiving an increased demand in the New York City commission market. Apple growers, not only in Vermont but throughout all New England, can capitalize on this demand by producing a consistently high quality product, carefully graded and packed."

Florida Products Florida Times-Union for May 8 says: "Right now, as for four months past, or since the 1923 truck crop season opened, Florida is feeding millions of people....Florida does not measure its fruit and vegetable shipments by crates, boxes or pounds, but by carloads, so generous are the supplies marketed in the early months of every year. Thus, since September 1, last, and up to noon of May 4, a total of 17,313 carloads of oranges were sent out of Florida to markets, North, East and West, and of grapefruit, in the same period, 16,224 carloads. ...Florida has been doing quite well in this line of agriculture, with the result that many millions of dollars are coming to Florida growers in this current season, as in every season past...."

French Leather and Skins France's leather and skin industries, the annual production of which exceeds ten billion francs, employ nearly 400,000 workmen and export an annual average of 60,000 metric tons of goods of a value of approximately 2 billion francs. According to figures compiled by "L'Exportateur Francais" and received by the Bankers Trust Company of New York from its French information service, the number of hides of all kinds produced annually in France may be estimated at about 30,000,000, to which must be added more than 16,000 metric tons per annum of raw hides supplied by the French colonies. In 1927 French exports of raw hides amounted to nearly 35,000 metric tons, while exports of dressed skins of all kinds reached 26,162 metric tons. The French shoe-making industry has an annual output of nearly 50,000,000

pairs which may be estimated at a value of almost 5,000,000,000 francs. Out of the above number approximately 40,000,000 pairs are machine made. Unlike the shoe trade, which is scattered all over France, the leather glove industry is confined within a small number of centers, of which the most important is Grenoble, with 60 factories producing about 800,000 dozen pairs a year. The total yearly output of the French leather glove trade may be estimated at nearly 2,000,000 dozen pairs of a value of approximately 500,000,000 francs, and exports of gloves average 400 metric tons a year.

Georgia Master Farmers Manufacturers Record for May 10 says: "...The 12 Master Farmers of Georgia reported an average gross income per farm of \$20,800, and a net income of \$5,700 per annum. The average investment per farm is \$78,428. In North Carolina, where 24 farmers received the award, the average gross income is \$14,644, the average net income \$5,213 and the average investment per farm, \$55,742. Ten Alabama farmers received the award, and they reported average gross incomes of \$23,635, average net incomes of \$7,159 and total investments per farm of \$82,788. Mississippi and Tennessee each furnished 11 Master Farmers, while the remaining 15 were selected from Texas...."

Land Bank Merger A San Francisco dispatch May 11 says: "Details of the merger of the Pacific Coast Joint Land Banks of San Francisco and Los Angeles disclose that the agreement provides that the San Francisco bank shall issue 5,500 shares of its stock to the Los Angeles bank stockholders, share for share, or the San Francisco bank agrees to pay to any stockholder so desiring par value of the shares owned by him. The San Francisco bank agrees to assume all indebtedness and obligations of the Los Angeles bank, mainly \$7,870,000 bonds issued under the Federal Farm Loan Act. Upon completion of distribution of San Francisco bank shares to Los Angeles bank stockholders, the Los Angeles bank will be dissolved. Both banks increased their capital stock just prior to the merger agreement. Both have paid 6% dividends annually in past few years. They were organized in 1922."

Master Farmers An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for May 12 says: "It should be gratifying to farmers everywhere to know of the hearty approval given the Master Farmer movement by the Nation's foremost citizens. Thinking men, from the President's Cabinet down, are most enthusiastic in their praise of this undertaking which focuses attention on the best elements of rural life. In the past public opinion has been permitted to belittle farmers and their work. But the reaction to the Master Farmer movement has proven that an enlightened public is willing to pay tribute to true worth and real achievement on the farm as in other lines of endeavor. Pennsylvania Farmer realizes that its sponsorship of the movement in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland is both an honor and a responsibility. Last year we supervised the selection of twelve men from the large number of progressive farmers nominated by the public as candidates for the awards. These twelve men received the honorary degree of Master Farmer and the Master Farmer Medal at a large banquet held in their honor at the Penn-Harris Hotel in Harrisburg during the last Pennsylvania State Farm Products Show. With the exception of minor changes in this year's Score Card, and an increase in the number of awards to be made, the present project will follow the plan used in 1927...."

Nitrogen
Parley

A dispatch from Paris May 11 says: "With a luxurious yacht as its meeting place and the beauties of the Adriatic and Mediterranean Seas as background, the first international business conference ever held on water has just ended successfully. Organized by Germany, the purpose of the unique gathering was to work out a basis for an international nitrogen trust. The American delegates, most of whom were New Yorkers, arrived in Paris to-day from Venice, where the conference ended last Tuesday evening after a nine-day cruise....Because of the secrecy little news is available, although it is believed considerable headway was made on the question of an eventual international trust. The British and Germans are said to have composed their differences, which concerned the question of restraint on production. The British felt that something must be done along this line to save the industry from a serious crisis, while the Germans favored going ahead on the present basis by conducting an intensive sales campaign. The Americans participated in the discussions, but preserved a noncommittal attitude as to the trust. The following Americans made the cruise; Professor Sidney B. Haskell, of the Synthetic Nitrogen Products Company, New York; Dr. Walter S. Landis of the American Cyanamid Company, New York; Vice President McIlravy of the Barrett Company, New York; Professor Harry Curtiss, Yale, delegate of the United States Department of Agriculture; James B.D.Edge, director of E.J.Dupont de Nemours and Co., Wilmington; Carl B.Peters of the Synthetic Nitrogen Company, New York, and Irene Dupont, Vice Chairman of the Dupont de Nemours Company...."

Scottish Agri-
culture

A recent investigation into conditions "in every country in Scotland, from Orkney to Galloway," conducted by a special committee appointed by the Scottish Liberal Federation, reports that in the last fifty years the total agricultural population has declined by 63,000 and that since 1908 the number of male farm hands, mostly young men, has decreased by 36,000. Bad housing conditions, often resulting in ill-health, are held partly to blame for the exodus from the country to the cities. But as a contributory cause of the "rot in agriculture" emphasis is laid on the "growing development of land ownership from actual farming operations and the increasing use of land for amenity and social purposes." Lack of capital for agricultural purposes is held to be the principal cause of decay in the industry. Much attention is paid in the reports to afforestation, and evidence is cited of an impending crisis in one of Scotland's most important industries. Improvement of transportation and marketing facilities is urged for the Highland districts, which are looked upon as an undeveloped colony. The committee's recommendations in general advocate the abolition of the present administrative machinery and the substitution of a special Scottish land department responsible for land settlement, agriculture, afforestation and the rural industries, the idea being to achieve unity of purpose and coordination of effort. One section of the recommendations made deals with the marketing problem. In this connection it is proposed to create a business board composed of Government officials and business men of tried organizing ability. The functions of the board are thus summarized: "To survey the whole field of agricultural marketing and to supply assistance, advice and direction in the creation of national marketing societies and cooperative organizations for each of the main kinds of produce--such organizations to be administered by the producers themselves."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 11. Steers, good and choice, \$13.25 to \$15; cows, good and choice, \$9 to \$12; heifers, good and choice, \$12.50 to \$14; vealers, good and choice, \$11.50 to \$15; feeder and stocker cattle steers, good and choice, \$11.50 to \$12.75; hogs, heavy weight, medium, good and choice, \$9.35 to \$10.10; light lights, medium to choice, \$7.25 to \$9.85; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice, \$6.50 to \$8.50; (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice, \$15.25 to \$16.65.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring (13% protein) Minneapolis \$1.77½ to \$1.82½. No.2 red winter Chicago \$2.01; Kansas City \$1.88 to \$1.94. No.2 hard winter (12½% protein) Kansas City \$1.64½ to \$1.70. No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis) Chicago \$1.57; Kansas City \$1.50½ to \$1.53. No.3 mixed corn Chicago \$1.05; Minneapolis 98½¢ to \$1.00½; Kansas City 97½ to 98½¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.06½ to \$1.07½; Minneapolis \$1.03½ to \$1.05½; Kansas City \$1.02½ to \$1.04. No.3 white oats Chicago 66½ to 71¢; Minneapolis 62¾ to 64¾¢; Kansas City 67½ to 68½¢.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes sold at \$5-\$5.75 per barrel in most eastern markets; mostly \$4 f.o.b. Hastings. Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs \$3.25-\$3.75 on the Chicago carlot market; mostly \$2.25 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.40-\$1.50 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.20-\$1.30 f.o.b. Waupaca. South Carolina pointed type cabbage brought \$3-\$3.50 per 1½-bushel hamper in New York City. Alabama and Mississippi pointed type \$4.50-\$4.75 per barrel crate in Chicago. North Carolina Klondike strawberries ranged 10¢-25¢ per quart in eastern cities. Texas yellow Bermuda onions sold at \$1.25-\$2 per standard crate in consuming centers.

May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 13 points to 21.68¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they were up 9 points at 21.10¢. The average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 9 points to 20.99¢ per lb. On the same day last season the price stood at 15.06¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 45¢; 91 score, 44¾¢; 90 score, 44½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 22 to 22½¢; Single Daisies, 23½¢; Young Americas, 25 to 26¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXIX, No. 37

Section 1

May 14, 1928.

BILLS IN CONGRESS

The Associated Press to-day reports: "With the opening of the national political conventions less than a month away, Congress will set out this week to speed up its legislative program with a view to adjournment well in advance of the gathering of the Republicans at Kansas City on June 12. Leaders had set as their goal a date not later than May 26, which would give two weeks for cleaning up the tax reduction bill and other problems which may have a possibility of solution at this session. With the Mississippi flood control bill already awaiting the President's signature, the leaders hoped to send two other major pieces of legislation to him this week--the McNary-Haugen farm relief bill and the Jones-White merchant marine measure...Leaders have again made the Muscle Shoals bill the order of business for Wednesday under such a rule as should bring a vote that day. Should these plans go awry final House action on this long-standing problem would go over to another session. While the House rules committee may give the Boulder Canyon Dam bill preferred status before adjournment, there is little likelihood of legislation on this subject at the present session..."

THE FARM BILL

An agreement on the final form of the McNary-Haugen farm relief bill was reached May 12 by conferees of the Senate and House, according to the press of May 13. The Senate provision exempting fresh fruits and vegetables from terms of the equalization fee was accepted by the conferees, but another Senate proposal to put beef and beef products in this class was turned down. The House language regarding selection of the advisory councils which would have veto power over the imposition of the equalization fee respecting their commodities also was accepted.

FEDERAL SALARY BILL

The Washington Post for May 13 says: "The Senate civil service committee made a favorable report on the Smoot-Welch salary bill May 12, after having added a large number of increases.

The Senate is expected to vote on the bill early this week. The additional raises tacked on by the Senate committee total between \$2,000,000 and \$5,000,000. As passed by the House, it was estimated that the bill would add \$18,000,000 to the Government pay roll. Hence, the Senate bill would add either \$20,000,000 or \$23,000,000, depending on which estimate of the cost of the additional Senate raises is correct, \$2,000,000 or \$5,000,000...The bill approved on Saturday would give an average annual increase of \$150 to the employees in the lower grades of the clerical, administrative and fiscal service, about \$30 more than provided by the House bill. It would give an average increase of \$200 to those in the middle grades of the clerical, administrative and fiscal services, about \$50 more than the House bill. With the exception of the additional increases, the bill as approved by the Senate committee yesterday is the same bill that passed the House recently. The so-called 'relative standing' provision, which Senator Smoot had asked the committee to remove, was kept in the bill...."

Section 2

Cooperation

An editorial in Hoard's Dairyman for May 10 says: "A few manufacturers and dealers in dairy products are considerably disturbed over the help and the proposed service the Federal Government has given and expects to extend to cooperative associations. It occurs to us that they are counseling with fear rather than courage. They have not given as close study to agricultural problems as they should before entering into such a severe protest against governmental assistance to cooperation. These men fail to comprehend that our cooperative enterprises have been very largely developed without any Federal assistance, and that they are stronger and better because they have developed themselves than they would be if they had been under the tutelage of the Federal or any State government....We believe every manager or director of every sound cooperative enterprise will agree that successful cooperation depends upon the character of work done by those responsible for the conduct of the organization and not upon Federal assistance or governmental laws. We know these men appreciate the danger to cooperation unless Federal assistance is wisely given....What is confronting the Nation is a proper solution of its agricultural problem. Cooperation is one of the agencies that will help to put the farmer's business on a better basis. This does not mean that all farm products must be processed and marketed cooperatively, but it is essential that considerable portion be handled in this way. It is the function of the Government to provide conditions under which all its industries can be developed upon a right basis and to exercise care that none have advantages not extended to all."

Cooperation

Opposition

An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for May 11 says: "...The agricultural trades met in Chicago last November to organize. Represented there were the manufacturers, processors, packers, canners, ginners, wholesalers, commission men and brokers of--or in--the following agricultural products: Grain, cheese, vegetables, eggs, butter, fruit, tobacco, sugar, potatoes, livestock, cotton, wool, flour, ice cream, milk and poultry....By resolution, the United States Department of Agriculture and its bureaus together with county agents and other Federal and State agencies were condemned for their activity in promoting producer-cooperation, it being recognized that it threatened to destroy the 'existing marketing agencies and established enterprises' of the agricultural trades. The spokesman of the meeting said frankly, 'The present administration is going a long way to promote cooperative marketing.' This gives us immediate insight to the struggle that is on to-day between farmers and organized industry. The producer views the small percentage he receives of what the ultimate consumer pays, and starts a movement to shorten the route between the two. The agricultural tradesman senses the threat against his prosperity or existence, and sets up machinery to thwart cooperation. He states frankly that he has no objection to cooperation in a small way, but he is alarmed that producer control in the big terminal markets will not have due regard for the laws of supply and demand.... The effect of the action taken by the Federated Agricultural Trades is to impress upon the farmer more indelibly than ever that he is on the right track. He started his fight on the prairies and has won it largely there through the control of many primary agencies of distribution. The trades retired to the cities and entrenched themselves in the terminal markets. It is at this point that the battle must now be waged. Commodity cooperation among producers is the means by which it will be won."

Dairy Industry Uthai Vincent Wilcox writes under the title, "The Dairy Industry is Becoming More Efficient," in Butter and Cheese Journal for May. He says in part: "From reliable sources it is estimated that the dairy production for 1928 will reach a total country-wide value of close to \$3,000,000,000. Such a total commands the respect of the financial world. One evidence of the new era for the Nation's dairy industry is found in the recent period of consolidations. Where formerly there were thousands of companies distributing milk, butter, ice cream and cheese, these have now been reduced to hundreds, and if the present trend continues, these hundreds may be reduced to scores. The objects sought through consolidations in every department of the industry are stabilized markets, lowered overhead costs and a central control which permits more economical distribution. Observers in Washington expect further consolidations as long as these ends are obtained. The five largest concerns, operating in widely scattered sections of the country, are described as expanding rapidly, with a continued absorption of smaller units....In Milwaukee the seven dairy firms of a half-decade ago have now shrunk to three. In Philadelphia there exists a combination of five companies which between them control most of the business. In Pittsburgh the bulk of the city's business is through one company....This recent merger period has not greatly affected the small cooperative dairies and producers' associations. The dairymen actually producing the milk which goes into the manufacture of various dairy products have their own associations for dealing with the dairy companies and these associations are local concerns in the majority of cases. There are still many small cooperative cheese producers in the local fields, but in the package cheese business there have been tendencies toward greater consolidations built upon extensive advertising and 'eat more cheese' campaigns...."

Florida Ferns An editorial in Florida Times-Union for May 9 says: "One of the many industries being carried on in Florida without a great deal of attention being directed to the matter is that of growing ferns for the market. Ferns, as everyone understands, are used in decorating, and they are to a great extent used by florists and landscape gardeners, with patrons everywhere....Ferns are extensively employed in gardens and conservatories everywhere, and some of the finest of the species are grown in Florida. Now it seems that the fern growers of central Florida are planning to organize for the purpose of better marketing, and it is this which has brought the industry into greater attention at the moment. The State commissioner of markets, L.M. Rhodes, addressed the fern growers at a meeting in Barberville, Volusia County, a short time ago in regard to the proposed movement to secure better shipping conditions and improve the methods of handling. Speaking of the matter of raising ferns in Florida, Mr. Rhodes is quoted as saying that the men now in the business realize that there is a great potential market for ferns, and that much can be done to help the situation through securing Government standardization of grades. He also declares that Florida offers unusual soil and climatic conditions for raising ferns and bulbs, and believes that by organizing the growers can get better results and enlarge the scope of the already sizable industry....Commissioner Rhodes suggests that the fern crop of the State is worth upwards of a million dollars annually and may easily be increased to large proportions. He finds that approximately a carload of ferns is sent out of Lake County every day. The fern section as indicated by activities along that line is

designated as beginning in lower Putnam and extending as far south as Palm Beach County. Ferns are grown as a 'side line' by some owners of citrus groves, and are found to be profitable. The industry could, undoubtedly, be extended to a large degree and be found profitable."

National Dairy Council An editorial in Hoard's Dairyman for May 10 says: "The influence of the National Dairy Council is constantly increasing. New units are being added. During the past few weeks the cities of Washington, D.C., and Birmingham, Ala., have been organized. It is difficult to conceive of more wholesome work than that of increasing the use of dairy products and otherwise informing consumers of what constitutes a proper diet. The work of the National Dairy Council not only assists the dairy industry to enlarge the market for its products, but it gives people information on what constitutes a proper diet. Our selfish interest prompts us to approve of any work that will bring a larger return to the dairy farmer, but it is a great satisfaction to know that in carrying out the work of the council people receive information that will give them better health. This work emphasizes the necessity of constant effort to improve the quality of dairy products, for without quality, consumption can not be increased no matter how important a food may be to health. Enlarging the work of the council means new contacts with leaders in public health and welfare, and new friends for the dairy industry, all of which are beneficial to not only those engaged in dairying, but to our Nation as a whole."

Power Development and Living Standards The daily wage scale and standard of living of any country are directly proportional to its ratio of total developed horsepower per wage earner, Dr. Henry Mace Payne, consulting engineer of the American Mining Congress, writes in the first volume of his recently published "National Resources and National Problems." A series of economic investigations have determined that the total power development in Japan is about 8-10 horse power per wage earner; in Great Britain, about 1 2-3 horse power, and in the United States the ratio is 4 horse power per wage earner. Wages, not only in these but in other countries under consideration, are in proportion, and national standards of living show similar gradation, according to Doctor Payne. Doctor Payne says further, "A writer recently expressed the thought that if we of to-day have advanced, it is not because of our increased population, or of any specific invention, but because to-day we have available more comforts, pleasures and conveniences as the result of our labors, and may find greater intellectual enjoyment than ever before. This has been brought about by the application of power to many industrial problems, by its introduction into farm operation and domestic equipment, by the extension of lighting systems to rural communities and the development of independent units for isolated localities...."(Press, May 9.)

Wool Market The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) April 12 says: "The tone in the wool market is better. London and Brisbane opened this week with prices only slightly lower than at the close of the previous series, revealing a real need for wool in all foreign markets. Better business is reported here for most qualities of domestic wools, especially finer grades. Better business reported in goods markets. Topmakers getting more business at slight advance in prices. Activity increased in new clip throughout West at slightly dearer prices, possibly a cent a pound on average."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 12. Livestock prices quoted: Heavy weight hogs, medium, good and choice, \$9.35 to \$10.05; light lights, medium to choice, \$7.25 to \$9.75; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice, \$6.50 to \$8.50; (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations).

Grain prices: No.2 red winter Chicago \$1.97 $\frac{3}{4}$. No.2 hard winter (12 $\frac{1}{2}$ % protein) Kansas City \$1.58 to \$1.65. No.2 hard winter Chicago \$1.53 $\frac{3}{4}$; Kansas City \$1.48 to \$1.52, (not on protein basis). No.3 mixed corn Chicago \$1.05; Kansas City 97 to 98¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.06 to \$1.08; Kansas City \$1.03 to \$1.04. No.3 white oats Chicago 66 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 70¢; Kansas City 67 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 68 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 29 points, closing at 20.70¢ per lb. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 25 points, closing at 21.33¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they declined 22 points, closing at 20.88¢.

Potato markets weaker. Florida Spaulding Rose ranged 25¢ to 50¢ lower at \$4.50-\$5.50 per barrel in leading eastern cities; and sold mostly at \$3.50 f.o.b. Hastings. Texas and Louisiana sacked Bliss Triumphs \$3.25-\$3.60 per 100 pounds on the Chicago carlot market and mostly around \$2.25 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 25¢ to 30¢ lower at \$1.30-\$1.50 carlot sales in Chicago. Texas yellow Bermuda onions ranged 10¢-50¢ lower at \$1.25-\$2 per standard crate in consuming centers; mostly \$1 f.o.b. Laredo. Strawberry markets firm. Louisiana Klondikes closed at \$3.50-\$4.25 per 24-pint crate in midwestern cities; \$2.67 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$3.15 auction sales at Hammond. North Carolina Klondikes 18¢-22¢ a quart in New York City. Alabama and Mississippi pointed type cabbage declined \$1 in Chicago closing at \$4.50-\$4.75 per barrel crate. South Carolina pointed type firm in eastern markets at \$2.25-\$2.50 per 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 45 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; 90 score, 45¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 22 to 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas, 25 to 26¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXIX, No. 38

Section 1

May 15, 1928.

THE FARM BILL

The press to-day reports that the conference report on the McNary-Haugen farm relief bill was adopted yesterday by the House, 205 to 117. Senate action still is necessary before it can be sent to the White House. The measure, which has in it the equalization fee, is, as agreed upon in conference, about the same as that passed by the House ten days ago. The Senate provision to exempt fruits and vegetables from the fee's provisions inserted in the measure by the conference was the principal revision of the bill.

ROAD LEGISLATION

The Associated Press May 13 reports: "The House May 12 passed an amended Senate bill to give broader discretion in the use of Federal aid highway funds to States having more than 5 per cent of their total area in unappropriated public lands and nontaxable Indian lands. The measure goes back to the Senate for concurrence in the changes. Under the measure, the States would be permitted to apply Federal funds, up to and including the whole cost of projects on the primary system of Federal aid highways or roads on the secondary system needed to make the proper connections with the primary system in an adjoining State. It carries a provision that the State funds released from the project must be applied toward the construction of other projects on the system under the direction of the Secretary of Agriculture. The bill does not carry any additional appropriations for the States...."

FEDERAL SALARY BILL

The Washington Post to-day says: "The bill to raise the pay of Federal workers--it could hardly be called the Smoot-Welch bill now--was the subject of a terse controversy at the Capitol yesterday.... A survey, however, showed that there was no ground for fear. A pay-raise bill will pass--that is virtually a certainty, it was declared. It may be the bill passed by the House, or it may be the bill reported out Saturday by the Senate civil service committee. In any event, some 45,000 Government employees here and some 90,000 in the States are going to get a raise in pay beginning July 1 next, it was stated...."

TAX LEGISLATION

Individual income taxpayers were given a prospective \$25,000,000 slice of the pending \$200,000,000 tax reduction melon yesterday when the Senate voted a downward revision of the surtax rate applying on incomes between \$20,000 and \$80,000. With the rate schedules virtually disposed of, the Senate last night found itself with a \$224,000,000 reduction measure on its hands. This is \$24,000,000 above the limit set by President Coolidge and Secretary Mellon, but far below the \$290,000,000 House bill. (A.P., May 15.)

CONGRESS ADJOURNMENT

Speaker Longworth expressed the opinion yesterday that Congress would adjourn about June 1. (Press, May 15.)

Section 2

Agricultural Machinery Purchase An editorial in Printers' Ink for May 10 says: "Some significant facts concerning the expansion of the farmer's purchases of agricultural machinery are contained in a statement issued by the Guaranty Trust Company of New York. In this statement it is pointed out that the manufacture of farm machinery occupies a peculiar position among the larger industries in that its products are sold to but one class of customer. 'The prosperity of this industry largely depends, therefore,' the bank points out, 'upon the returns received by farmers from the sale of their products.' In other words, as the farmer's income increases, his purchases of agricultural machinery increase in direct ratio. Consequently, manufacturers of every other kind of commodity sold to farmers can find no better guide to the state of the farmer's pocketbook than is available in the sales figures of the companies selling agricultural machinery. These manufacturers will find much to interest them, then, in the fact that the volume of sales of agricultural machinery for 1927, as reported by ninety manufacturers to the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, advanced 5.2 per cent over the total of 1926. During January and February of this year, total sales of agricultural machinery as reported to the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank, increased 11.3 and 20.9 per cent, respectively, over the totals for the corresponding months of last year. Those are tremendous gains and, if the Guaranty Trust Company is correct in its conclusion that this expansion may be ascribed principally to the improved financial position of the farmer, other manufacturers selling to the farm market may well look forward more confidently to the future the farm field has to offer them."

British Prices A London dispatch May 14 states that the index of wholesale prices in Great Britain during April, as just published by the British Board of Trade and based on 100 as the average of 1913, works out at 142.9. This compares with 140.8 in March, with 139.8 in April, 1927, with 143.7 in the same month of 1926 and 162.5 in 1925. Out of fifty-three articles of food, thirty-four increased during the month and eleven decreased. Of ninety-seven industrial materials, thirty-eight increased while nineteen declined.

Canadian Grain Storage The world's largest elevator, according to its builders, is now being erected at Port Arthur, Ontario, on Lake Superior. The directors of the Saskatchewan cooperative wheat pool recently awarded a contract for the superstructure of Terminal 7, which will have a total capacity of 6,900,000 bushels, and should be ready for operation on Oct. 15. Reinforced concrete is the material used in construction. The report says, in the press of May 13: "The completion of the terminal will give the Saskatchewan cooperative wheat pool a total storage space of 22,975,000 bushels at the head of the lakes, which, together with a 2,000,000-bushel terminal elevator at Buffalo and the space provided by the pool's country elevator system in Saskatchewan, will give a total grain storage capacity of more than 50,000,000 bushels for the 1928-9 crop year."

London Wool Sale A London dispatch May 12 says: "The offerings at the wool auction sales May 12 amounted to 9,715 bales, of which 8,000 were sold. Prices were steady. Home and German dealers were active bidders for greasy crossbreds, but American buyers were inactive. A better selection of Cape of Good Hope and Natal met with an improved demand."

Radio Receivers Radio receiving sets in the United States total approximately 12,000,000 and serve an audience of 40,000,000 listeners, according to a national survey completed by Radio Retailing, in compliance with a request made by the Federal Radio Commission. "The figure does not include crystal nor one-tube receivers of obsolete type," explained M. Clements who directed the survey. "If all of these crystal units and single tube affairs which are still in wide use on farms and in rural sections are to be counted, the total number of receiving sets in actual service to-day can be conservatively placed at between eleven and twelve millions. This indicates a total radio audience of at least forty million people...." (Press, May 13.)

Russian Agri-culture Paul Scheffer, Moscow correspondent of the Berliner Tageblatt, and said to be "very much the best informed of the foreign commentators on the somewhat mysterious course of events in Russia," is the author of a Tageblatt article translated and published in The Nation and Athenaeum (London) for April 28. In this he says: "...What is now going on in Russian internal politics brings to the surface some of the essential elements in the situation. Undoubtedly the unsatisfactory deliveries on the grain market must be ascribed to a certain contumacy on the part of the wealthy peasants, or, as they are called, Kulaks. The Stalin Government might indeed have met this situation by raising the price of grain, curtailing the program of industrialization, and importing from abroad articles needed by the farming community instead of machinery: in short, it might have done everything in its power to revive and strengthen the initiative of the farming community and their confidence in the State. The Kremlin might have turned towards the Right, and in view of the disastrous result of the decline of agricultural exports on the trade balance of the last five months this would have been the most natural proceeding according to ordinary ideas. But all this is not what is in fact happening. Instead, the State has been showing the farmers the whip-hand, commandeering the grain, and taking even more drastic measures. For some time past the system of taxation has recognized class distinctions in the villages, exempting altogether from taxation the poorer peasants, numbering about 35 per cent of the whole, while the wealthier ones have been exasperated by taxation and other forms of oppression, in spite of the fact that of the 24,000,000 peasants in Russia only 3.2 million have an income of more than 600 roubles. The results have been an extensive discouragement of the economically efficient elements in Russian rural life and the contumacy about grain deliveries recorded above. Up to now, however, in spite of some pressure against the Kulaks, the State has shown no intention of provoking actual conflicts, and has not displayed any special economic activity of a Socialist kind in the country districts. But this winter, when the peasant farmer has exhibited a certain independence towards the Proletarian Dictatorship, the class war has been considerably aggravated, and we now find a policy being adopted for the rapid socialization of the labor of peasants with small or no means, with the idea of dispensing as soon as possible with the output of the Kulaks....There is already evidence of a considerable amount of liquidation of so-called 'illegal' ownership of land in the Ukraine, which is Russia's storehouse of grain. For example, it is reported that no less than fifteen hundred Cooperative Unions of Kulaks for the joint use of tractors and other farming machinery, hitherto under

the patronage of the Government, have been dissolved, the tractors being taken away and put at the disposal of the poor peasants; the idea being that instead of the Kulak Cooperative Unions, which the Soviet State regards as 'fictitious,' and only an agreeable disguise for private agricultural capitalism, there are to be 'genuine' unions of peasants with little or no means, who alone in future are to receive assistance. The result is that the Soviet Government is undoing much of the work which it has performed hitherto for the improvement of farming, on the ground that these measures have been benefiting economically successful peasants more than any other section...."

Stock Average A New Haven dispatch May 14 states that the weekly index number of stock exchange prices, compiled by Professor Irving Fisher and based on the week's fifty most active industrial stocks, reckoned on their average of 1926 as 100, is 365.6. This compares with 350.0 the week before, 336.1 two weeks ago, 343.0 three weeks ago and 339.1 four weeks before. This week's average is the highest for the year to date; the lowest was 253.9, for the week ended Feb. 24.

Synthetic Sugar A Geneva dispatch May 13 says: "Professor Ame Pictet of Geneva University, 75 years old, has discovered a process of producing artificial sugar by synthesis from several substances, after many years of experiments. His product possesses the qualities of and resembles and tastes like ordinary sugar, such as is obtained from sugarcane or beet root. The professor said to-day that artificial sugar will probably never be placed on the commercial market owing to the cost of production. Saccharine is not employed in the process, he said."

Television by Radio The New York Times of May 14 reports that a series of radio television demonstrations for the public is to begin about June 10, according to an announcement May 13 by the inventor, Theodore H. Nakken, president of the Nakken Television Corporation of Brooklyn, a recently formed subsidiary of the Pilot Electric Manufacturing Company. The first tests of the televisior transmitter and receiver, designed for use on the channels of the speech and music broadcaster, are to begin late this week in Brooklyn. Laboratory tests will be followed immediately by tests over greater distances using WRNY, Mr. Nakken said. The first public exhibition is scheduled to be held in Hotel Roosevelt early next month.

Vegetables in Foreign Trade More potatoes and green vegetables were shipped from the United States in 1927 than in 1926 and accounted largely for an increase in the value of vegetable exports, according to the Foodstuffs Division of the Department of Commerce. The exports increased from \$11,028,233 to \$11,209,068. Imports decreased from \$23,144,080 in 1926 to \$22,556,356 last year, the falling-off being due to fewer purchases of potatoes abroad. While America's foreign trade comprises practically every known vegetable, the bulk of it is made up of dry beans, potatoes, tomatoes and onions. Cuba is the principal foreign market for vegetables shipped from the United States; it takes 75 per cent of the dry beans, 38 per cent of the dry peas, 57 per cent of the potatoes, and 37 per cent of the onions. Canada is the largest market for green vegetables, taking in 1927 about 90 per cent. of the total exports. (Press, May 10.)

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 14. Livestock quotations at Chicago on slaughter steers, good and choice, \$13.10-\$15; cows, good and choice, \$9-\$12; heifers, good and choice, \$12.50-\$14; vealers, good and choice, \$12-\$15; feeder and stocker steers, good and choice, \$11.50-\$12.75; heavy weight hogs, medium, good and choice, \$9.25-\$9.90; light lights, medium to choice, \$7.50-\$9.85; slaughter lambs, good and choice, \$15.25-\$16.65.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes \$4.50-\$5.25 per barrel in eastern cities; \$3.50 f.o.b. Hastings. Texas, Louisiana and Alabama sacked Bliss Triumphs mostly \$3 on the Chicago carlot market. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.25-\$1.40 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1-\$1.10 f.o.b. Waupaca. Louisiana Klondike strawberries \$3.75-\$4.25 per 24-pint crate in midwestern cities; \$3.17½-\$3.50 auction sales at Hammond. North Carolina Klondikes 10¢-25¢ per quart in eastern markets. Tennessee Klondikes \$4.50-\$5 per 24-quart crate in Chicago. Texas yellow Bermuda onions \$1.25-\$2 per standard crate in consuming centers; mostly around \$1 f.o.b. Laredo. So. Carolina pointed type cabbage \$1.50-\$2.50 per 1½ bushel hamper in the East. Mississippi and Alabama pointed type \$4.50-\$4.75 per barrel crate in Chicago.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 25 points to 20.45¢ per lb. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 27 points to 21.06¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they declined 32 points to 20.56¢.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring wheat at Minneapolis \$1.73 1/8-\$1.79 1/8. No.2 red winter, Chicago \$1.91½; Kansas City \$1.84-\$1.89. No.2 hard winter, Chicago \$1.54½; Kansas C. \$1.50½. No.3 mixed corn, Chicago \$1.02-\$1.05½; Minneapolis 99¢-\$1.01; Kansas City \$1.01-\$1.02. No.3 white oats, Chicago 65½-70½¢; Minneapolis 61¼¢-63¼¢; Kansas City 66¢-67¢.

Closing price of 92 score butter at New York was 46¢.

Closing prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats 22-22½¢; Single Daisies 23½¢-24¢; Young Americas 25-26¢.
(Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXIX, No. 39

Section 1

May 16, 1928.

THE FLOOD BILL

The press to-day reports: "President Coolidge yesterday approved the flood control bill. His action will at once be followed by steps carrying forward a project which will cost at least \$325,000,000 and possibly much more. An initial appropriation of an amount somewhere between \$10,000,000 and \$25,000,000 will be carried in the Second Deficiency bill soon to be reported to the House for the plan of flood control about to be initiated under Federal auspices. Major Gen. Jadwin, Chief of the Army Corps of Engineers, has recommended that an appropriation of \$25,000,000 be made available to begin the work of flood control along the Mississippi River....In the act approved yesterday, practically the entire cost will be on the Federal Government. Another preliminary step to be taken by virtue of the authority conveyed by the new act will be the selection of a civilian engineer, who, with the Chief of Army Engineers and the president of the Mississippi River Commission, will constitute a board to consider differences between the Jadwin plan and the Mississippi River Commission plan for flood control and make recommendations to the President. The board will have no other authority; the project finally approved by the President will be carried on by the Mississippi River Commission...."

FEDERAL SALARY BILL

The Washington Post to-day says: "The Senate may vote on the Federal pay-raise bill at a session tonight unless Senator Smoot enters an objection. Senator Brockhart of Iowa, who is handling the bill in the absence of Senator Dale of Vermont, announced yesterday that he would attempt to get a vote on the bill tonight. When it convenes tonight, the Senate will proceed under the unanimous consent rule. Under this rule, an objection by one senator can block consideration of a bill....If the bill is not considered tonight, it may go over to next week...."

CHILD HEALTH DAY

The Senate May 14 accepted a House resolution designating May 1 of each year as Child Health Day, according to the press of May 15.

MERCHANT MARINE BILL

The House May 14 adopted the conference report on the Jones-White merchant marine bill, according to the press of May 15.

COAST TO COAST

A New York dispatch to-day announces inauguration within the next few months of a passenger transportation service from New York to Los Angeles by airplane and railroad train, which will cut the present railroad running time from four to two days, according to a statement yesterday by C.M.Keys, president of the Curtiss Aeroplane & Motor Co.



Section 2

British Artificial Silk Returns from the British artificial silk industry for the first quarter of the year show that exports of yarn during the period amounted to over 2,000,000 pounds, as compared with 1,500,000 pounds exported in the same period last year, while fabrics exports were valued at about 2,000,000 pounds against 1,500,000 pounds, according to advices just received by Bankers Trust Company of New York from its British information service. Yarn imports during the first quarter have increased considerably while imports of mixture fabrics showed a fair expansion. Imports of artificial silk waste during the first quarter of 1928 amounted to 30,113 pounds, as compared with 15,711 pounds in the corresponding period of 1927; exports of waste doubled and now amount to 204,898 pounds as against 102,130 pounds last year.

Canadian Farm Loans It has been announced by the Canadian Department of Finance that the Government will shortly organize the Federal Rural Credits Board to conform with the legislation approved in 1927 for farm loans. This has been awaiting the action of Provinces in passing enabling legislation. British Columbia was the first to take this step, being followed by Manitoba, Quebec, Nova Scotia and Alberta, so that there are five Provinces to cooperate in the Federal scheme when it comes into effect this summer. It is expected that eventually the system will be Dominion-wide. Explaining the workings of the plan, the Canadian Pacific Railway says: "Under the Canada Farm Loan Act of 1927, provision is made for the appointment of a Federal board to operate the scheme, which will consist of four members, Government-appointed. This board will have power to issue and sell bonds to be known as Farm Loan Bonds, to buy the same on its own account and to retire the same on or before maturity. It will have power to make long-term loans to farmers on the security of first mortgages on farm lands...."

Farm Electrification An editorial in The Prairie Farmer for May 12 says: "The most important farm news of the week is the announcement of four large Illinois electric power companies that they will build farm power lines at their own expense (up to \$450 per farm) thus putting central station electric current within the reach of thousands of farmers. The companies will make a minimum charge of \$10 a month for current, supplying 135 kilowatt hours for this charge, and charging three cents per kilowatt hour for additional amounts. This new plan will stimulate the building of country electric lines, and will bring a rapid advance in farm electrification....Properly handled it will actually pay its own way, with the household uses thrown in for profit."

Hornaday on Bird Bill Dr. William T. Hornaday of Stamford, Conn., former director of the New York Zoological Park and internationally known for his work in the protection of bird life, emphatically indorses the Norbeck migratory bird bill, now before Congress, and urges its enactment into law. Mr. Hornaday is head of the Permanent Wild Life Protection Fund. "Out of the gloomy atmosphere of retarded 'conservation' that has hung over Congress for six long years," Mr. Hornaday writes in a bulletin issued by the fund, "the Norbeck migratory bird bill rises and shines like a star. It is amazing, delightful and almost too good to be true. It is a golden opportunity to do a big thing for all our vanishing migratory birds--not just ducks and geese only. It benefits not only migratory game but all migratory birds; and if there is a special-privilege clause in it anywhere we have failed to discover it. ..."(Press, May 13.)

**Livestock
Marketing
Service**

An editorial in The Oregon Farmer for May 10 says: "The Portland Union Stockyards Company, G.A. Pierson, president, is endeavoring to work out with the railroads concerned a new plan for orderly marketing of livestock from eastern Oregon, southeastern Washington and southern Idaho, under which two livestock trains each week from that section will arrive in Portland, one on Monday afternoon for Tuesday's market and the other on Thursday afternoon for Friday's market. If the service can be arranged, the stockyards market will be closed on Mondays, and packers and butchers will be obliged to purchase on Friday what they need for Friday and Monday killing, and on Tuesday what they need for Tuesday to Thursday. This arrangement is expected to stop sudden and serious price fluctuations such as occurred under the old plan of shipping once a week for Monday buying, and to prove of great advantage to producers and shippers. It is hoped to arrange also for a telegraphic reporting service of the amounts of livestock being loaded, so that shippers may be advised and may load or withhold loadings accordingly."

**Loganberries
in B.C.**

Growers of loganberries on Vancouver Island have found a new outlet for their product, which had threatened to glut their market. A Victoria company has increased its output of wine made from loganberries from 7,300 gallons to 100,000 in the last year. The machinery of the plant is to be enlarged to a capacity of 200,000 gallons, with a tank storage of 350,000 gallons, and the company has ordered the entire output of the Vancouver growers. (Press, May 13.)

**Motor Trans-
portation**

An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for May 12 says: "The motor truck has become quite a factor in our commerce, but even a greater influence in our farming. Few realize that three and one-third million hogs, or about eleven per cent of the total, were trucked to the fifteen principal markets in 1925. Six per cent of the sheep, twelve per cent of the calves, and four and one-half per cent of the cattle received at these markets also were hauled by truck. The advantages of the truck in hauling livestock, especially for short distances, are a minimum of shrinkage, quick delivery, less cost for feed and watering stock, and the ability to make small shipments at a time. The truck, combined with the use of the radio, also gives one a chance to take advantage of favorable markets. Often a farmer can get market prices over the radio, load a truck, and have it at the market in the same time that it would take to deliver the products at the local railroad yards in the old way. The motor truck has also revolutionized the dairying business. Between 1910 and 1924 it has taken over the hauling of the milk formerly handled by electric railways, wagons, and steam lines. Because of the quickness and convenience of hauling by the truck, the dairying areas have expanded, and extended greater distances from their markets. The motor truck has helped to decentralize farming and has thus enabled farmers some distance away from the markets to get as much benefit from those markets as if they had lived closer. What will it be when the farmers fly to the markets with their produce?"

**Nebraska Cow
Record**

An editorial in The Wisconsin Agriculturist for May 12 says: "A Holstein cow owned by the University of Nebraska has made a record that entitles her to a front place among the cows of all breeds as a great producer of milk and butterfat. For the third time she has

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produced more than 1,000 pounds of butterfat in 365 days. This remarkable cow last freshened at the age of eight years, eleven months and eighteen days, thus finishing her record at almost 10 years of age. She is credited as having produced 30,137.5 pounds of milk containing 1,104.54 pounds of fat, equivalent to 1,375.6 pounds of butter. Not only was this a noteworthy record, but in addition to her last performance she attains the honor of being the second cow of her breed in the world to produce 1,000 pounds of butterfat in three successive lactations, her average for the three periods being 30,354 pounds of milk and 1,072.13 pounds of butterfat. Her largest production in short time tests is a little over 31 pounds of fat from 714 pounds milk in seven days, and 117 pounds of fat from 3,132.8 pounds of milk in 30 days. Her best long time record is 1,106.62 pounds of fat from 32,173.8 pounds of milk. We do not cite this record as being attainable by dairy farmers generally, but as evidence of the value of breeding for dairy performance. Such records are worthy of notice, however, because they demonstrate the ability to produce, year after year, as the result of breeding for performance at the pail, and to produce others of their kind endowed with that inbred persistence to turn the products of the farm into milk and butterfat."

Sugar Producers Organize The Domestic Sugar Producers Association, a new organization for the promotion of the sugar industry in the United States, Hawaii and Porto Rico, will open headquarters at Washington this week, it was announced May 12. E.A.Burguières, of New Orleans, was elected president of the new association; G.W.McCormick, Menominee, Mich., was elected first vice president; Royal D. Mead, of Washington, D.C., treasurer; John B. Pratt, Washington, executive vice president; and M.V. Bromberg, Washington, secretary. The organization was formed by the United States Beet Sugar Association, the Hawaiian Sugar Planters Association, American Sugar Cane League of the United States, and the Association of Sugar Planters of Porto Rico. The new organization will encourage the development of the sugar output in the United States and its possessions and will oppose the granting of further preferential tariff privileges to any nation now enjoying them. (Press, May 13.)

Wheat Prices An editorial in Farmstead, Stock & Home for May 15 says: "H.W.Wood, an official of the Canadian Wheat Pool, told the National Wheat Pool Committee, in session at Lincoln, Neb.: 'If the farmers of the United States will organize, they will be guaranteed two dollar wheat.' Statements like this do not do the cause of cooperative marketing any good. The informed know better; those who are not will be disappointed if and when an organization is completed. Sight must never be lost of the fact that organization and cooperative selling can never advance prices beyond what an article will be bought for by the consumer. Wheat, or any other commodity, is raised to sell, so its price is determined by the supply in relation to the immediate demand. Put the price too high and consumption falls off. If the price is kept too high a surplus is built up that still further increases the supply when the next crop is harvested. As long as the United States and Canada have half a billion bushels of wheat a year, which they must sell abroad in competition with the world, it is folly to talk about organization 'guaranteeing' any price, saying nothing of two dollars. We have said many times, that if there could be a North American wheat pool formed, so that the United States and Canada

would cease to be competitors, it would add considerable to the price farmers would get. From September 1 to the following February, importing countries must come to North America for their wheat. As matters stand now Canada and the United States, knowing they must get rid of the larger part of their surplus before Southern Hemisphere wheat begins to move, start underselling each other so as not to be 'stuck' with a lot of wheat nobody wants. If the pool propagandists from north of the line will base their arguments on this ground, instead of talking about a guaranteed price, they may do some good."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 15. Livestock quotations at Chicago on slaughter steers, good and choice, \$13-\$15; cows, good and choice, \$9-\$12; heifers, good and choice, \$12.50-\$14; vealers, good and choice, \$12.50-\$15.50; feeder and stocker steers, good and choice, \$11.50-\$12.75; heavy weight hogs, medium, good and choice, \$9.15-\$9.70; light lights, medium to choice, \$7.35-\$9.60; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice, \$6.70-\$8.50; slaughter lambs, good and choice, \$15.25-\$16.65.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes \$4.50-\$5.25 per barrel in eastern cities and \$3 f.o.b. Hastings. South Carolina Cobblers \$4-\$4.25 per stave barrel in New York City. Alabama, Texas and Louisiana sacked Bliss Triumphs \$2.75-\$3 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$1.85-\$2.25 in the East; bulk stock \$1-\$1.20 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Louisiana Klondike straw-berries \$3.50-\$4.25 per 24-pint crate in leading markets; \$2.52-\$2.92½ auction sales at Hammond. Tennessee Klondikes \$5-\$5.50 per 24-quart crate in Chicago. Texas yellow Bermuda onions \$1.25-\$2 per standard crate in consuming centers; \$1 f.o.b. Laredo. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$8-\$10 per standard 45 in most city markets; \$3.25-\$3.50 f.o.b. Brawley.

Closing price of 92 score butter at New York was 46½¢.

Closing prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats 22-22½¢; Single Daisies 24¢; Young Americas 25-26¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 17 points to 20.62¢ per lb. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 17 points to 21.23¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they were up 16 points at 20.72¢.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring wheat at Minneapolis \$1.75½-\$1.81½. No.2 red winter, Chicago, \$1.94; Kansas City \$1.84-\$1.89. No.2 hard winter, Chicago \$1.55; Kansas City, \$1.48-\$1.51. No.3 mixed corn, Chicago \$1.02; Minneapolis 96¢-98¢; Kansas City 94¢-97¢. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago \$1.03-\$1.04; Minneapolis \$1-\$1.02; Kansas City \$1.00½-\$1.02. No.3 white oats, Chicago 64-68¾¢; Minneapolis 61½¢-63½¢; Kansas City 67-68¢.
(Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXIX, No. 40

Section 1

May 17, 1928.

FARM RELIEF BILL

The Senate yesterday adopted the conference report on the McNary-Haugen bill. The bill now goes to the President. (Press, May 17.)

MERCHANT MARINE BILL

The Senate yesterday adopted the conference report on the Jones-White merchant marine bill, which now goes to the President.

FEDERAL SALARY BILL

The Washington Post to-day reports: "The amended Smoot-Welch salary bill to raise the pay of Federal employees was passed by the Senate late last night. Not a vote was cast against it.

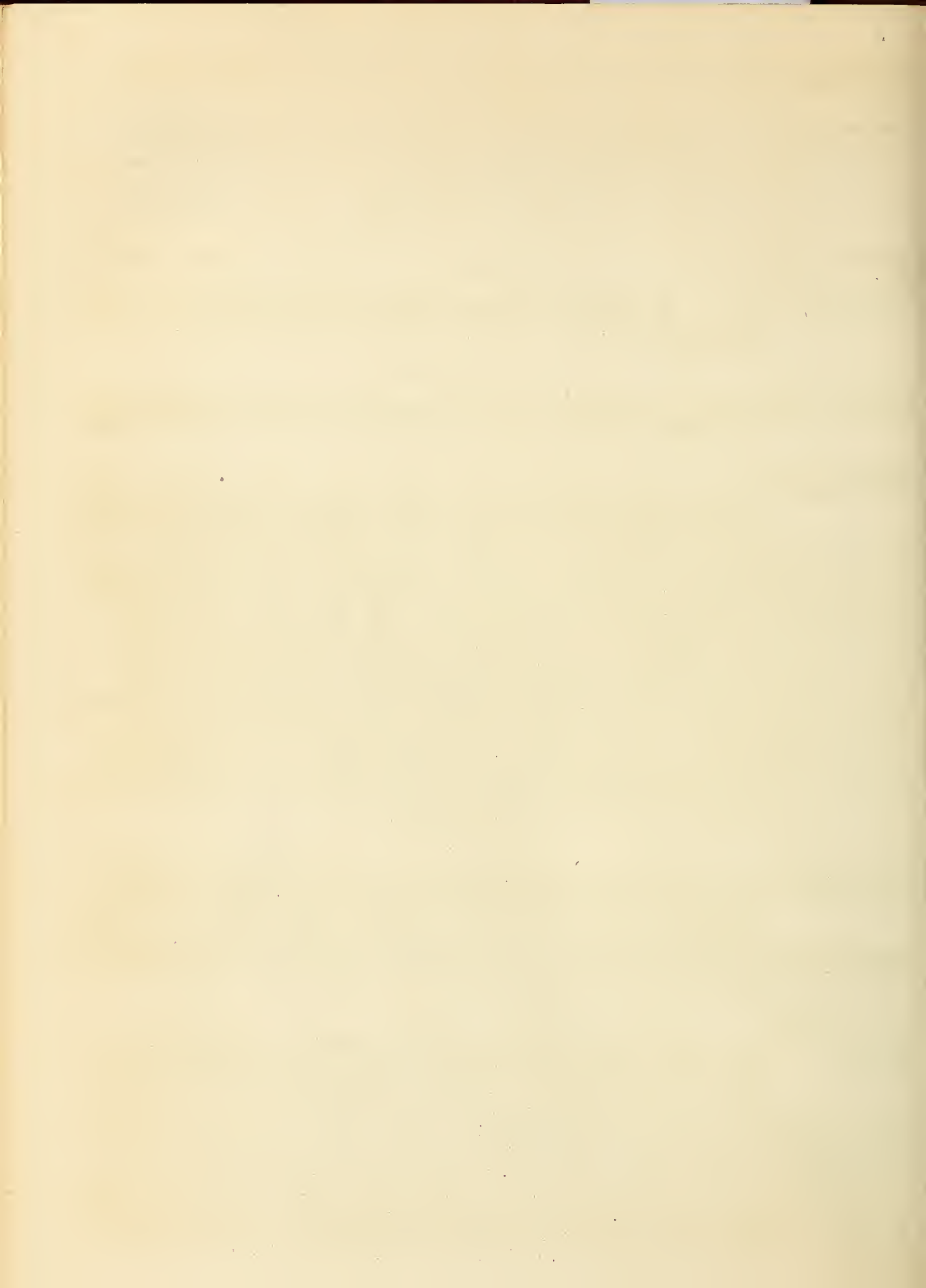
The bill now goes to the House which must pass on Senate committee amendments increasing the pay raise....As passed the bill carried all the increases suggested by Senators Brookhart of Iowa, and Blaine of Wisconsin. These increases were frowned upon as excessive by President Coolidge. The cost of the bill in its present form is the subject of a controversy. Senator Smoot, who favored the House bill, which, he said, would add about \$18,000,000 to the Government pay roll, declares that the bill as amended by the Senate civil service committee would cost about \$25,287,000. Senator Brookhart, who is handling the bill in the Senate, in the absence of Senator Dale of Iowa, contends that the bill would only add \$20,101,080 to the pay roll. If the House approves the increases made by the Senate, the bill will go directly to the White House for the President's signature. If the House disapproves them, the bill then goes to a conference between representatives of the House and the Senate...."

MUSCLE SHOALS LEGISLATION

The House yesterday passed the Morin bill for Government operation of the \$160,000,000 power and nitrate plant at Muscle Shoals by a vote of 251 to 165. If the Senate accepts this House substitute for the resolution by Senator Norris, which it approved, the bill will go to the President, who is expected to sign it, thereby ending the uncertainty which has enveloped the project for ten years. (Press, May 17.)

FLOOD ENGINEER CHOSEN

President Coolidge yesterday completed preliminaries to the actual start of flood control work on the Mississippi River with the appointment of Carleton W. Sturtevant, a New York engineer, as the third member of the planning board created by the flood control bill, which he signed Tuesday. Sturtevant will serve with Maj. Gen. Jadwin, Chief of Army Engineers, and Col. Charles L. Potter, president of the Mississippi River Commission. This board will iron out the differences in the recommendations of the Army Engineers and the civilian commission and make final recommendations to the President for an engineering program. When the report of the board is handed the President it automatically goes out of existence and the flood control project will pass from legislative into executive hands. (A.P., May 17.)



Section 2

Business Conditions Reviewing business conditions for the first quarter of the year, the Federal Reserve Board announced May 15 that industry and trade had regained lost ground and reached about the same volume as a year ago. The output of manufactures, the board said, increased rapidly during the quarter culminating in a production in March that exceeded any month during the fifteen years' existence of the Federal Reserve System. "The present high level of manufacturing is due almost entirely to increase in the steel, automobile, food and paper industries, as other important groups, notably the textile and leather industries, have been less active during recent months," the review continued. "Steel production, which declined sharply during the last half of 1927 to the lowest levels since 1924, has risen even more rapidly since December; and in March the output of steel ingots was only slightly smaller than that for March of last year, which was the largest ever recorded."

Farm Aid Urged By Industry The New York Times May 16 says: "Help for the farmer in the form of better credit facilities and 'equalization with manufacture and industry in taxation, tariff and freight rates' was proposed May 15 by the Platform Committee of the National Association of Manufacturers. Forty-four committeemen, representing industrial organizations in eighteen States, adopted the 'Platform of American Industry,' which will be submitted to the coming conventions of the two political parties. The 'planks' included approval of commercial treaties with foreign countries embodying 'unconditional most-favored nation clauses,' disapproval of the Government entering business and approval of restricted immigration, excepting the separation of families; of the open shop in industry, of reduction of the corporate tax and of the protective tariff with a 'continuing revision of tariff schedules' by an 'independent, nonpartisan, semi-judicial Tariff Commission.'...After recommending aid for farmers, along with a 'generous appropriation for the extension of agricultural research and education, the results of which may well increase the earning power of farmers,' the platform added: 'While depression in agriculture is not universal, it is so wide-spread and so serious where it exists as to constitute one of our acute national economic problems. Such tariff changes on agricultural products as are demonstrably necessary should be the subject of a special act of Congress expressly limited to increases in the tariff rates on agricultural products.'...."

Farm Electrification An editorial in Farmstead, Stock & Home for May 15 says: "Experience has demonstrated that electricity is an important addition to farm life. Owing to the publicity given the experiments of power companies operating 'high line' circuits, the impression has gained ground that it is necessary to wait until a power line is built in front of a farm in order to have satisfactory and low priced electric current. While we have no desire to belittle the splendid work of the power companies in pioneering the farm field at a considerable financial outlay, that will, at best, be slow in coming back, it is only fair to call attention to the fact that the small generating plant has long passed the experimental stage. In the nature of things, it will be the work of years to make electricity from central plants available to more than a very small per cent of farmers of the United States. Something might be done to hasten the time through

building cooperative plants, but the capital investment required, and the expert handling needed of such plants after they are built, has so far prevented any great development along this line. In the vast majority of farm homes the small light and power plant seems to be the best answer. It at least will serve the purpose until the more or less distant day arrives when a power and light line will reach the home."

Florida Bank Closes A Sarasota, Fla., dispatch May 16 reports that the American National Bank of Sarasota was closed May 15 on orders of national bank examiners. The bank, capitalized at \$150,000, was organized about two and a half years ago. George L. Thacker is president.

Foreign Radio Service Plans for the establishment and expansion of transoceanic radio service were presented May 15 before the Federal Radio Commission by representatives of public communication companies and private services making application for short wave bands.

Migratory-Bird Bill An editorial on the migratory-bird bill in The New York Times of May 16 says: "...Federal legislation is necessary if we are to keep pace with Canada. Whatever seemed to trench upon the rights of States has been eliminated from the Norbeck bill. In providing sanctuaries, Canada is far ahead of the United States, having established fifty. The utility of conserving insectivorous birds is not in dispute. 'Never did the orchards, gardens, farms and forests of North America need,' says Doctor Henshaw, 'the services of millions of insect-eating birds as they need them to-day.' The reason is that their number has been greatly reduced by heedless slaughter. A bill so meritorious should be reported out of committee and, after brief debate, put on passage. Especially should members representing farming districts rally to its support, for the birds are among the best friends the farmers have."

Prices A rise in the general level of wholesale prices from March to April is shown by information collected in representative markets by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor. The bureau's weighted index number, computed on prices in the year 1926 as the base and including 550 commodities or price series, stands at 97.4 for April compared with 96.0 for March, an increase of nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Compared with April, 1927, with an index number of 93.7, an increase of almost 4 per cent is shown. Farm products as a group advanced nearly 4 per cent above the March level, due mainly to price increases for grains, hogs, lambs, poultry, and cotton. Potatoes, on the other hand, were cheaper than in March. Foods and building materials increased over $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent while hides and leather products increased over 2 per cent. A negligible increase was recorded for chemicals and drugs and a minor decrease for housefurnishing goods. No change in the general price level is shown for textile products, fuel and lighting, and metals and metal products. A decrease of over 2 per cent took place in the group of miscellaneous commodities, due largely to price decreases of crude rubber. Of the 550 commodities or price series for which comparable information for March and April was collected, increases were shown in 141 instances and decreases in 116 instances. In 293 instances no change in price was reported. Comparing prices in April with those of a year ago as

measured by changes in the index numbers, it is seen that farm products and hides and leather products were considerably higher while foods and textile products were somewhat higher.

Reserve Board Reports Advices against enacting legislation requiring the Federal Reserve Board to put "great official signification" on its economic surveys of agriculture, industry, commerce, employment and the effect the gold supply has upon the purchasing power of money by making annual reports to Congress, were given to the House committee on banking and currency May 15 by Dr. Adolph C. Miller, a member of the board. In suggesting deletion of provisions in the Strong stabilization bill directing the board to make official reports to Congress, Doctor Miller said such a policy "erects a scientific guess and makes the forecast official," which he contended was not germane to purposes set out in the pending legislation. "I think that when the board deals with these indeterminable matters it should be relieved from official speaking," said the Federal Reserve Board member in answer to questions propounded by committee members during the course of his testimony on the Strong measure. (Press, May, 16.)

Sugar Utilization Contest Theodore H. Price, in Commerce and Finance for May 16, inaugurates a plan for the establishment of a fund to be offered as a prize to promote the discovery of some method by which the nonfood consumption of sugar may be substantially increased. He says in part: "The sugar business is a waif among the world's industries. Including the value of the land, the centrals, the refineries, the factories, and the capital employed, it represents an investment of probably \$6,000,000,000. At present prices the sugar annually produced is worth about \$1,500,000,000 without allowing for the enhancement caused by the imposition of import duties which yield a cash revenue estimated at \$300,000,000 and increase the cost to the consumer by a much larger sum. But in spite of the fact that it has become an indispensable article of human food, sugar has ceased to yield a living profit to the millions who labor to produce it or the investors whose money is tied up in the machinery of production and distribution....We are not scientists, but we are told that sugar is like coal and diamonds in that it consists chiefly of carbon, and the miracles that chemistry has performed in other lines emboldens us to believe that a raw product so essential need not long go begging at 3c a pound if the minds of the world's chemists can be effectively directed toward its possibilities. To this end, and because of our interest in the prosperity of sugar producers, we hereby invite the sugar trade to join us in subscribing to a fund of not less than \$50,000 that shall be offered as a prize, or used otherwise as the subscribers may direct, to promote the discovery of some method or methods by which the nonfood consumption of sugar can be substantially increased...."

Wool Tariffs A denunciation of discriminations made under present wool tariff rates is contained in a letter sent by the Carded Woolen Manufacturers to Senator Gooding, according to a statement by Edward Moir, president. The letter says in part: "The situation in the wool and wool goods industries calls for the earnest and immediate attention of everyone who has the welfare of these industries at heart...." (Press, May 14.)

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 16. Livestock quotations at Chicago on slaughter steers, good and choice, \$13-\$15; cows, good and choice, \$9.25-\$12.25; heifers, good and choice, \$12.50-\$14; vealers, good and choice, \$12.50-\$15.50; feeder and stocker steers, good and choice, \$11.50-\$12.75; heavy weight hogs, medium, good and choice, \$9.10-\$9.60; slaughter pigs, medium, good and choice, \$6.75-\$8.25; slaughter lambs, good and choice, \$15.25-\$16.65.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes \$4-\$5 per barrel in eastern cities; mostly \$3 f.o.b. Hastings. Louisiana sacked Bliss Triumphs \$3-\$3.15 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.25-\$1.40 on the Chicago carlot market; \$1.05-\$1.10 f.o.b. Waupaca. South Carolina pointed type cabbage \$1.50-\$2.25 per $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushel hamper in eastern cities. Alabama and Mississippi pointed type \$5.25 per barrel crate in Chicago. Texas yellow Bermuda onions \$1.25-\$1.75 per standard crate in consuming centers; mostly \$1 f.o.b. Laredo. Louisiana Klondike strawberries \$3.50-\$4 per 24-pint crate in midwestern cities; \$2.25-\$2.80 auction sales at Hammond. Tennessee Klondikes \$5 per 24-quart crate in Chicago.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 19 points to 20.43¢ per lb. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 16 points to 21.07¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they declined 14 points to 20.58¢.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern spring wheat at Minneapolis \$1.73 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.77 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.2 hard winter, (12 $\frac{1}{2}$ % protein) Kansas City \$1.57 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.64. No.2 red winter, Chicago \$1.93; Kansas City \$1.79-\$1.84. No.3 mixed corn, Chicago \$1.03 $\frac{1}{2}$; Minneapolis 96-98¢; Kansas City 96-97¢. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago \$1.05 $\frac{1}{4}$ -\$1.06 $\frac{1}{2}$; Minneapolis \$1-\$1.02; Kansas City \$1.02-\$1.03. No.3 white oats, Chicago 66 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-70¢; Minneapolis 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-63¢; Kansas City 68 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-69 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Closing price of 92 score butter at New York was 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Closing prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats 22-22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies 24¢; Young Americas 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-26¢.

(Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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